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High Court reverses Togawa convictions, remands for a new trial. PAGE 2

CNMI govt pays $101,638 to Radich's two lawyers. PAGE 7

Marshals seize M/V *Luta*

» Japanese investor claims he was defrauded to contribute $3.4M to purchase ship

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Marshals Service seized yesterday afternoon the controversial cargo ship M/V *Luta* after Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto filed a lawsuit in federal court against Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and some owners of the ship for allegedly refusing to pay back the $3.4 million he put up for the vessel.

Three deputy marshals, accompanied by Yamamoto counsel George Lloyd Hasselback, boarded a small boat to serve the arrest order on a crewman of M/V *Luta*, which was anchored in the channel near Smiling Cove Marina and Port of Saipan.

After Yamamoto filed the lawsuit

See MARSHALS on Page 4

Attorney George Lloyd Hasselback, counsel for Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto, and three U.S. deputy marshals arrive at the Smiling Cove yesterday afternoon after they served a federal court's order to seize M/V *Luta*.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A small boat, carrying three U.S. deputy marshals and attorney George Lloyd Hasselback, leaves controversial M/V *Luta* in the channel near Smiling Cove Marina and the Port of Saipan after the marshals seized the cargo ship yesterday following a lawsuit filed by a Japanese investor against Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and several other persons.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Ripple effects from CW1 issue spread to healthcare, tourism

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Thirty-six staff of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.—31 of which are nurses—are among those affected when the CNMI-Only Transition Worker nonimmigrant visa or CW program's numerical limit for fiscal year 2017 was reached. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services reduced the cap by one from 12,999 to 12,998 last month.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña, MHA, said the 31 nurses are from the hospital's various units. *Saipan Tribune* learned that one of the nurses is assigned

See RIPPLE on Page 4

13 Days Before ELECTION DAY

USCIS hikes fees after no comments made

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services had informed the public that it would increase its fees in May this year. They waited for comments from the public but after receiving none they went ahead with the increases, this time to take effect on Dec. 23.

The CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nonimmigrant visa is included in the visa classification that

See USCIS on Page 4

$6,258 awarded to 4 NMC students

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business* magazine presented the Businesswoman of the Year and Matson Navigation Co. scholarships to four students of the Northern Marianas College yesterday at the NMC campus in As Terlaje.

Maureen Maratita, publisher of Glimpses Publications, which includes the *Guam Business* magazine,

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INSIDE

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Iraqis on the edge of Mosul face a deadly dilemma: Stay or flee.
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Violent gunmen still menace pick-and-shovel miners in eastern Congo.
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The human nearly lost his life to drug addiction. The dog nearly lost his life to humans.
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Local

High Court reverses Togawa convictions, remands for a new trial

On Oct. 24, 2016, the Supreme Court issued its decision in *Commonwealth v. Erwin Togawa*. The High Court reversed Togawa's convictions and remanded the case for a new trial because the trial court abused its discretion by improperly admitting hearsay testimony and a past recollection recorded.

The Commonwealth charged Togawa with one count of assault and two counts of disturbing the peace for allegedly threatening a victim with a knife. Following a bench trial, the trial court convicted Togawa of one count of assault and one count of disturbing the peace.

Togawa appealed his conviction, arguing that the trial court erred in admitting improper hearsay evidence under NMI Rule of Evidence 803(3), improperly allowing a petition for a temporary restraining order to be read into the record as a past recollection recorded under NMI Rule of Evidence 803(5), admitting improper character evidence under NMI Rule of Evidence 404(b), and by allowing the prosecution to ask its witness improper leading questions. Togawa also asserted that even if the individual errors were harmless, the cumulative weight of the errors required reversing his conviction. In response, the Commonwealth argued that the evidence was properly admitted, that Togawa had failed to properly preserve his objections, and that even if there were errors, they did not change the outcome of the trial.

The Supreme Court first reviewed the admission of testimony surrounding the alleged victim's then state of mind, and found that the trial court erred by allowing testimony that exceeded the limits of the NMI Rule of Evidence 803(3) exception. Specifically, the High Court determined that testimony about the alleged victim's statements by the police officers went beyond the exception because they did not simply address the alleged victim's state of mind, that she was scared, but the reason for that fear, because she alleged Togawa had threatened her with a knife. The court held that although testimony that the alleged victim was afraid at the time she filed her complaint against Togawa may have been admissible under Rule 803(3), any testimony pertaining to the reasons for her emotional or mental condition was inadmissible.

Next, the High Court reviewed whether the Commonwealth had adequately established the foundational requirements necessary to admit a petition made by the alleged victim as a past recollection. The court concluded that, because the Commonwealth offered contradictory dates and failed to elicit testimony from the witness that she remembered the petition's preparation or had reviewed its contents, the trial court abused its discretion by allowing the petition to be read into the record.

See TOGAWA on Next Page

Drugs and its effects discussed at behavioral health conference

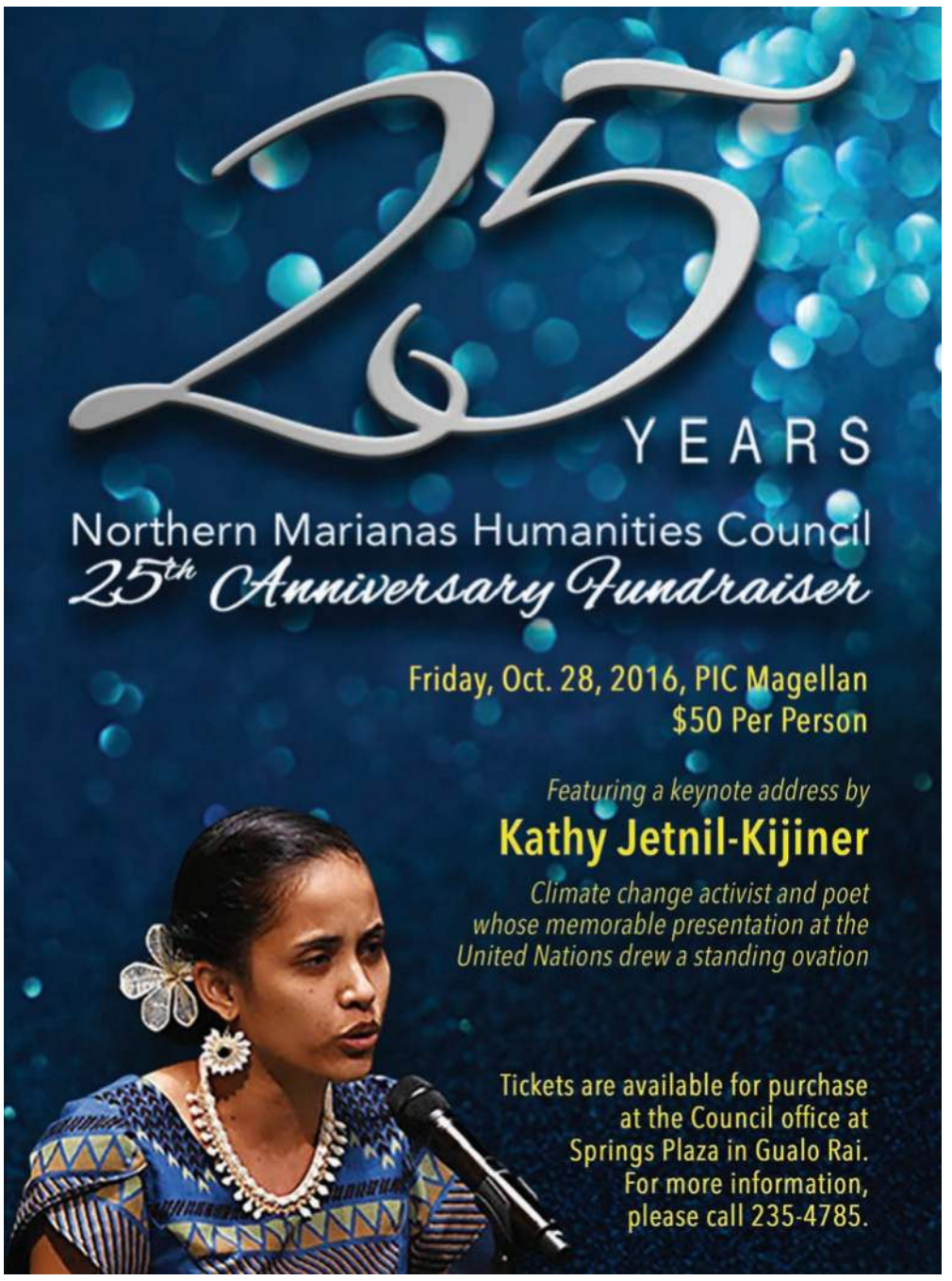
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, represented by Region 9 SAMHSA administrator Capt. Jon Perez, talked about the relation of family health on substance abusive individuals in the CNMI and a possible solution to address the issue during the first-ever behavioral health conference of the CNMI yesterday.

The conference started Monday at the Saipan World Resort.

Perez said the CNMI must put together all its resources in order to address this issue, along with supporting mental health services.

"We talked about really bringing all of the community services together to promote family health, individual health, and community health to really bring the various pieces of the services of the CNMI together to combat substance abuse, uncoordinated family issues that come along with that, and also to support the mental health services that are available here," he said.

Community Guidance Center director Nadine H. Sablan shared the importance of the conference. "We want to bring attention to mental illness and substance abuse here in the CNMI," she said. "Most of the people here in this room are decision makers and policy makers, along with people that are in government agencies and participating members that have to do with people that experience different behavioral health ailments in the CNMI." ***(Erwin Encinares)***



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EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

THE CNMI DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY ISSUES THE FOLLOWING

MORATORIUM NOTICE
on

N.M.I. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 80 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, SUB-CHAPTER 80-20.1 EMPLOYMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS § 80-20.1-210 (C) (3) Exemptions from Workforce Participation § 80-20.1-215 (b) Particular Construction Project. Exemptions issued prior to this notice remains in effect until their expiration date.

This moratorium notice shall be in effect until such time that the CNMI Secretary of Labor publishes a new notice on this matter.

Trunk or Treat scheduled at JKPL, Kagman Community Center

Saipan's annual Halloween event, Trunk or Treat, will take place at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and Kagman Community Center on Oct. 31, 2016. The Rotary Club of Saipan, with the help of other agencies, is organizing the event.

"We will be donating the candies as well as juices and other refreshments to distribute to the public," said Rotary Club of Saipan president Ivan Ilmov. "We will also be placing our car at the site with our club sign and decorations."

According to Ilmov, the local Rotary Club plans to have its Interact clubs from Marianas High School and Kagman High School posting themselves next to the Kagman Community Center from 5:30pm until they run out of candies.

"We are trying to bring back some good stuff for the community. Many kids don't get the chance to eat a lot of candy whenever they want so it's a good occasion to celebrate for great memories when they grow up," he said. "I hope we can have enough candy to give out to children for the whole night but unfortunately, from past experiences, it goes away completely within two and a half hours."

The Rotary Club has been supporting the Trunk or Treat event for about three years, with its president working with the club for 16 years now.

The Rotary Club of Saipan is not the only non-government group at the event, with Trunk or Treat attracting the participation of many government and non-government agencies. The event started out as an annual activity at the American Memorial Park. It has also become a contest on the best decorated trunk and best costume. ***(Michael T. Santos)***

TOGAWA

From Page 2

Finally, the High Court considered whether these errors, when taken together, could be considered harmless, meaning they did not affect Togawa's substantial rights. Because of the nature of the evidence, the High Court concluded that the errors could not be considered harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. As a result of these errors, the Supreme Court vacated Togawa's convictions and remanded the case to the Superior Court for a new trial.

The Supreme Court's full opinion is available at http://www.cnmilaw.org/supreme16.html. ***(NMI Judiciary)***

Haunted house in Chalan Piao

ONE80 Productions will be hosting a haunted house event in Chalan Piao on Oct. 30 and 31. Under their management, an organization created by younger adults, the goal of the event is to draw as many participants as possible.

Ed Sikayun, spokesperson for ONE80 Productions, said, "We are not celebrating Halloween, let's put things that way. …"We try to portray a scenario where once you die, it's not the end of it. We're talking about what happens to your soul after you lose your physical self."

Sikayun also wanted to share his thoughts on why he chose to charge participants $2 for entry. "We were originally not going to charge the public to come. If it were up to us, we'd make it free. However, learning from experience, if something has no value, people will not come."

He wishes to simply have as many people come to have a good scare and experience memories they will remember.

The event will take place in Chalan Piao, right across the Hopwood soccer field on Oct. 30 and 31. It will begin at 7pm and end around 10:30pm. Tickets are $2 each at the front door during the event. For more information, call Sikayun at (670) 287-5665. ***(Michael Santos)***

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NMC

From Page 1

said the number of scholarship recipients depends on the number of applicants.

Although this year's number of scholars did not surpass the number of scholarships that were presented last year, Maratita hopes that even more would be eligible for the scholarship next year.

Maratita also urged those who have already been awarded the scholarships to apply again.

"Any student can apply more than once, so as long as the conditions of the scholarship are met, we are very happy to support more than once," she said.

Third time recipient Roy Alegre, a Business Management student, received a scholarship amounting to $1,799. Another third time recipient, Jasmine Che, a Business student, received a scholarship of $1,533. First time recipient Marchie Fernandez, a freshman Business Management student, received $1,789, while another first time recipient, Vicorylie Quijano, an Accounting/Business Management student, received $1,148.

Fernandez hopes other students like her will get an opportunity to study through scholarships.

"I just wish more students know about this, so that it could also help them get a degree," she said.

Scholarship recipients were selected based on their total number of credit hours enrolled for the semester, grade point average, involvement in the community and potential for success in business. All applicants were required to submit a written essay and evidence of financial need. Each of the recipients has a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Applications were open to full-time and part-time students of the three educational institutions.

A total of $26,948 in scholarships were awarded to 11 students—seven students from Guam and four students from Saipan.

Since 2006, the program has awarded a total of $207,377.50 in scholarships to 111 college students in Guam and Saipan. Funds for these scholarships are raised through the annual Businesswoman of the Year Gala. This year's gala was held on April 30, 2016. In addition to raising funds for these scholarships, the annual event recognizes women who make a difference in business.

The First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business* magazine Businesswoman of the Year program provides funding for student scholarships at three higher education institutions in the Mariana Islands: University of Guam, Guam Community College, and NMC.

USCIS

From Page 1

increased the filing fee. The CW-1 is a visa classification where businesses in the CNMI are allowed to employ foreign workers provided that they would transition to the U.S. immigration system within a certain period of time.

The CW-1 visa uses the I-129 form where the filing fee would increase from $325 to $460 per head.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday there are costs in processing documents with USCIS. "No one likes to see fees increased, but there are costs involved in processing immigration and naturalization benefit requests.

"USCIS has an obligation to recover the cost of those services. A comprehensive fee review concluded that the current fees do not allow full cost recovery," said Sablan.

He pointed out that the proposed fees were first posted on the *Federal Register*. "The Department of Homeland Security published a proposed fee schedule in the *Federal Register* in May this year. No comments were received and the new rule takes effect on Dec. 23."

USCIS' funds come from the fees paid by applicants and petitioners that want to avail of immigration benefits. This new adjustment of filing fees for immigration applications and petitions is the first time in six years.

Federal law requires USCIS to conduct reviews of its fees every two years "to determine the funding levels necessary to administer the nation's immigration laws, process benefit requests and provide the infrastructure needed to support those activities," said USCIS in a statement.

"This increase is necessary to recover the full cost of services provided by USCIS. These include the costs associated with fraud detection and national security, customer service and case processing, and providing services without charge to refugee and asylum applicants and to other customers eligible for fee waivers or exemptions."

"This is our first fee increase since November 2010, and we sincerely appreciate the valuable public input we received as we prepared this final rule," said USCIS director León Rodríguez. "We are mindful of the effect fee increases have on many of the customers we serve. That's why we decided against raising fees as recommended after the fiscal year 2012 and 2014 fee reviews. However, as an agency dependent upon users' fees to operate, these changes are now necessary to ensure we can continue to serve our customers effectively. We will also offer a reduced filing fee for certain naturalization applicants with limited means."

RIPPLE

From Page 1

at the hospital's intensive care unit while two each are from quality assurance and radiology departments while one is from the laboratory.

Some of the renewals of the CW-1 permits of these 36 CHCC staff are still in April but most of them are in July.

Muña said it was a disappointing to learn that the CW-1 numerical limit has already been reached. "[It's] disappointing for us here as we were constantly monitoring the situation. We are reviewing all our other options now, including processing the nurses under employment-based visas."

"CHCC needs these nurses as it will have a devastating effect on the health system overall if we lose them. Our actions to work around this will be based on our commitment to the CNMI community, our patients, and our workers."

Early this month, Muña said they were hoping a different visa classification would be provided for foreign workers in the health industry that would exempt them from the CW-1 cap. A separate classification for, say, registered nurses, would ensure that they would not be competing for the same CW-1 slots with other industries that also employs foreign workers.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), in a separate interview, said the hospital is one of the agencies whose operations could not be interrupted, especially with nurses that take care of sick and patients that need special attention. "These are nurses that take care of individuals who are sick and nurses who specialize in some type of field. …Of course I am very concerned about how the cut-off in CW-1 permit renewals this fiscal year might affect our hospital and other critical services. And while I cannot speak of specific cases, I can say that the congressional office will accommodate any constituent with questions or issues dealing with USCIS, or any other federal agency. Every case is different. Where the congressional office can help, we will."

He said everyone should be reminded that the CW-1 program is only temporary. "It was created to ease the Commonwealth's transition to U.S. immigration law. We have to be serious about making that transition, because one day, the CW-1 program will end."

Tourism also affected

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion said he is hoping the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Sablan would continue to push for the suggestions they made to the federal government. "We're very concerned with the CW-1 issue, realizing that we hit the cap two 1/2 weeks into the fiscal year is very alarming."

"We are hopeful that our CNMI leadership, in collaboration with Delegate Kilili [Sablan] in the U.S. Congress, are able to push the agenda of the CNMI in Washington, D.C. so they can hear our concerns."

"The CW-1 issue must be taken cared of immediately. Our economy can't go into a standstill because of this but this is what it looks like it's going to come to if the Department of Homeland Security provides no immediate relief," added Concepcion.

He said that despite hiring and training local and U.S. citizens in the labor force, the CNMI would still face a shortage of able workers that could support the Commonwealth's recovering economy.

"Hiring local workers that's always a great thing to do. But at the end of the day, even if you count all the local people that could join the workforce, there's still not enough people living in the CNMI that would able to staff the industry. The tourism industry is very labor dependent. If we don't have enough people who are ready, able, and willing to work, what can we do?"

Concepcion said another solution is to recruit workers in the region. "We have to look to other sources to fill our labor needs and that is primarily been how we run things in the CNMI. We look to our neighbors in our region to fill our labor needs."

He, however, remains hopeful that officials in Washington would hear and act on the concerns of the CNMI. "We hope that people in D.C. that are making this decisions are able to see that. We are at their mercy and it doesn't comfort me knowing that.

"I want to have our people here make the decisions that would affect our livelihood since we are the ones who are going to benefit or lose from it. It is kind of scary, we are going to feel it, win or lose."

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios added that their members have also formed a partnership with the Latte Training Academy and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. "Businesses continue to use other applicable visa categories as well as work with other partners like NMTI, Latte, and others to help with workforce needs."

Moratorium on exemptions

Torres said he has already directed the CNMI Department of Labor to issue a moratorium on future exemptions. "Because of the dramatic events following the 2016 cap being reached, I directed the CNMI Department of Labor to place a moratorium on future exemptions."

"This year has been a wake up call for us all that we must do more to ensure that our growth does not come at the expense of the things that make our islands great, and that is the success of our small and established businesses and everyone here who calls these islands home," said Torres, who just arrived from a close to two-week trip to Las Vegas to attend several meetings.

Torres attended the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Advisory Committee meeting and also met with Nevada gaming officials. He is the committee's co-chair for the Pacific Islanders with Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo.

Torres said his administration would continue to work with Sablan for a joint effort that would further strengthen the local economy. "My administration will continue to work alongside our U.S. [[delegate] and USCIS to put forward a joint effort toward transitioning our workforce and growing our economy in a way that benefits all of our people here in the CNMI."

"The goal of creating a better standard of living for our people is not just a local government issue. It is a Commonwealth issue that requires collaboration with our business leaders and our colleagues on the federal level in D.C."

MARSHALS

From Page 1

yesterday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona directed the U.S. Marshals Service to "arrest" the 146.5-by-38-foot 237 gross ton M/V *Luta*.

Manglona also commanded the U.S. Marshal Service to "arrest" the ship's engines, furniture, tackle, appurtenances, and other necessaries.

Aside from Hocog, Yamamoto is also suing M/V *Luta*, Luta Mermaid LLC, Abelina T. Mendiola, Deron T. Mendiola, Fidel S. Mendiola III, Fidel Mendiola Jr., and Robert Toelkes.

Yamamoto, through Hasselback, is suing them for breach of contract, fraud, and unjust enrichment.

Yamamoto asked the court that the vessel be condemned and sold to pay his demands, including interest and costs.

Yamamoto is also demanding attorney's fees, expenses, and court costs.

The plaintiff asked the court to order defendants provide a complete and accurate accounting of the disposition of any and all funds he contributed to them for the purchase and operation of M/V *Luta*.

Luta Mermaid LLC owns M/V *Luta*.

According to Hasselback in the lawsuit, Abelina Mendiola, Deron Mendiola, and Fidel Mendiola III are managers/shareholders of Luta Mermaid.

Hasselback said that beginning in 2013, Yamamoto began to visit Rota as a tourist and that over the course of several trips, he began to grow very fond of the island.

Hasselback said that sometime in 2013, certain defendants approached Yamamoto about funding the purchase and operation of a commercial shipping vessel to be used to service Rota.

Hasselback said that in January 2014, Yamamoto first funded the business by providing $700,000 to Kizuna Marine Inc., an entity under the control of the defendants.

Certain defendants then told Yamamoto that another company, Luta Mermaid LLC, had to be formed to purchase the vessel.

In June 2014, Yamamoto advanced another $600,000 to the Luta Mermaid LLC, Hasselback said.

Yamamoto then loaned Luta Mermaid an additional $682,000 and advanced another $690,000 to the company, Hasselback said.

In January 2016, Yamamoto transferred another $109,000 to Luta Mermaid.

Hasselback said certain defendants asked Yamamoto again for more money last May, but he declined to give any more.

The lawyer said to date, M/V *Luta* has not been operated in a commercially reasonable manner in order to maximize the potential for commercial gain in order to reimburse Yamamoto for his contributions to the purchase, outfitting and operation of the ship.

Hasselback said the defendants have not reasonably maintained the ship and have not paid the wages of the sailors assigned to the vessel.

Hasselback said of the $3,414,000 in advances and/or loans that Yamamoto contributed, approximately $1,982,000 was provided to the ship for necessaries.

Last May, former Department of Public Lands secretary John DelRosario filed a taxpayer's lawsuit against Hocog and Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson over the alleged adoption of a Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution 19-3 without public notice that purportedly authorized payment of $400,000 to Luta Mermaid, a private company owned by Hocog's relatives.

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'Voters not allowed to take selfies with ballots'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Taking selfies with ballots at polling places is not allowed because voters are not permitted to bring electronic equipment inside the voting booths, according to Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Julita A. Villagomez yesterday.

Villagomez said there will be signs at polling places saying that electronic items such as cellphones and cameras are prohibited beyond a specific point or area.

While they have no control over absentee voters, CEC is advising them not to do selfies with their ballots because their votes are supposed to be done in secrecy.

Meanwhile, as of yesterday at noon, except for Rota, poll workers in all precincts are now complete.

Villagomez said they are still waiting for a political party on Rota to submit the names of their poll workers.

CEC staff will conduct a workshop for all Saipan poll workers at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Oct. 31.

For Tinian poll workers, the workshop will be on Oct. 27 at the Northern Marianas College, while for Rota it will be on Oct. 28 at NMC.

Each precinct has three poll workers—a supervisor, a poll worker, and a confine worker.

Villagomez said confine workers are those who will go to the house or hospital to get the votes of voters who are sick or not physically able to go to the polling sites.

Voters can request to be "confine voters" between 7am to noon on election day, Nov. 8.

Villagomez posted yesterday the ballot specimen at CEC's office. Villagomez said some voters like senior citizens want to see the sample ballots so that during the election day it would be easier for them to vote.

Igisomar, Yumul to square off in Senate debate today

Voters will have an opportunity to see the two candidates running for a Senate seat go head-to-head in a two-hour debate hosted by the Marianas Young Professionals, or MYPros. Admission is free.

Incumbent senator Sixto Igisomar (R) and former senator Ray Yumul (Ind), his challenger, will take the stage at the Multi-Purpose Center at 5:30pm today.

Igisomar filled the Senate seat vacated by Yumul, who resigned to run as lieutenant governor in 2014.

The candidates will field questions from two co-moderators and be granted time to respond to barbs from his rival. Each candidate will get a short closing statement.

Local lawyer Tiberius Mocanu will moderate this event along with Kagman High School teacher Gerard Van Gils, also a MYPros member.

An opportunity to meet the candidates running for the Senate is also open to the public following the debate.

Admission to the "Meet the Candidates" after-party fundraiser at Naked Fish is $10 and includes a free drink with *pupus* while supplies last.

Tickets will be available for purchase at the forum. Proceeds raised will fund community projects and educational programming spearheaded by the MYPros Community Projects Committee.

If you have questions or would like submit questions for this debate, email mypros.670@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-001

Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

ADDENDUM NO. 1

Dated: October 14, 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is hereby notifying prospective Offerors of the following amendments to CUC-RFP-17-001:

➢ **EXTENSION OF PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:**

The Pre-proposal conference schedule date has been extended from October 18, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to ***October 31, 2016*** *at 10:00 AM (ChST).*

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **October 31, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

➢ **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION:**

The deadline for submission of questions or requests for clarification has been extended from October 20, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to ***November 3, 2016*** *at 10:00 AM (ChST).*

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 3, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

➢ **DEADLINE FOR BID SUBMISSION:**

The deadline for bid submission has been extended from November 9, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) to ***November 30, 2016*** *at 10:00 AM (ChST).*

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-001 – Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 30, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

All other terms and conditions in the Specification/Scope of Work, shall remain unchanged and in full force.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-001

Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for the Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks responses from qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS (OEM's) from which CUC intends to select one proposer to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's power supply requirements.

The Scope of Work and Solicitation Package will be emailed upon request, by CUC Procurement & Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **October 18, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-001 – Removal of old Engine, Alternator (No. 8) and Turnkey Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 1 x 8 - 10 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 9, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 20, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

YOU + HEALTHCARE

LET'S MAKE IT BETTER TOGETHER

Waiting is not an option when your health is at stake. With the completion of our undersea fiber optic cable named "Atisa", we will soon deliver faster online service to the Marianas. Accelerated connections means improved diagnosis and treatment times with quicker access to specialists on and off island.

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Better Together

Theater Club founder proud of *Dracula* cast, crew

Mount Carmel Theatre cast acts out *Dracula* on their opening night at Pacific Islands Club on Oct. 21, 2016.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS

By MICHAEL T. SANTOS
michael.santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mount Carmel Theatre Club president and founder Galvin Guerrero couldn't be more proud for the cast and crew of the play *Dracula* that played last Friday and Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

Brianna Hunter directed the play and the main cast consisted of Zeno Deleon Guerrero Jr. as Dracula, Michael Ortizo as professor Abraham Van Helsing, Monica Aira Usi as Lucy Seward, and Jeff Matthew Melchor as Dr. Seward.

"I'm really proud of these students. It's a very difficult, classic play. Originating from the 1920s, it required nothing but top-notch acting and that was what they delivered tonight. The acting was just phenomenal. I'm very proud of the cast, and it takes a great director like Brianna to bring out that amazing performance," said Guerrero.

He said the Mount Carmel Theatre Club rehearsed three times a week for about two and a half months prior to the scheduled performances.

"This is one of the few shows that I didn't do much with it. I just took care of producing, like getting the publicity out, arranging for the venue, and signing the money. I was actually pretty hands-off on this project."

When asked about her thoughts post-opening night, Hunter said, "I'm really happy with the cast and crew, and basically just everybody involved in the show because they really dedicated a lot of their time and effort on the play. Even with the turnout tonight, it was just a fantastic show and I hope that the audience loved it as well."

She said that everything went smoothly and that all they ever had to do before screen time was an audio test. Aside from Hunter the production team also included Jaqueline Doctor as stage manager, Eligiah Camacho as floor manager, Rosa Castro as art director, Erika Mendiola as business manager, You Jin Kim as tech director, and William Blake Deleon Guerrero as soundboard operator.

The rest of the cast included Jose Castro as John Harker, Kelvin Cepeda as R.M. Renfield, Jonelle Toskas as Mrs. Wells, and William Minami as Butterworth.

The art crew is composed of Andrea Bang, Risa Hirayama, Cassidy Torre, Kayla Sabla, Antonia Reye, Angel Miki Takayama, and Keona Camacho.

The floor crewmember were Joseph Muna, John Diego Masga, Edward Minam, Jacob Sablan, Jan Travilla, and Karleen Reyes.

For more information about the Mount Carmel Theatre Club, contact Mount Carmel School at (670) 234-6184.

$2 Admission Fee
BEYOND THE GRAVE
OCT. 30TH & 31ST 7PM
Chalan Piao, Across Hopwood Soccer Field
Contact: 287-5665
DISCLAIMER: ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK!

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-002

CONSULTANCY SERVICES, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SIX ENGINE SYSTEMS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for the oversight and management of Supply and Installation of Six (6) Engine Systems, 8-10 MW/Each, at CUC Saipan Power Plant 1, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks responses from suitably qualified entities from which CUC intends to select one consultant to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's consultancy and construction management requirements.

The Scope of Work and Solicitation Package will be emailed upon request, by CUC Procurement & Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **October 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-002 – Consultancy Services, Supply and Installation of Six Engine Systems"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 10, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business

license in compliance with the Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 21, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-003

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO UPDATE CUC'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CUC'S POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for professional services to update the CUC Rules and Regulations and CUC's Policies and Procedures Manual.

The solicitation seeks responses from qualified entities from which CUC intends to select one consultant to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's consultancy requirements.

The scope of work and solicitation package will be emailed upon request, by the CUC Procurement and Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement and Supply Division.

A pre-proposal conference will be conducted at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building on **October 20, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, proposers shall familiarize themselves with the current CUC Rules and Regulations and the CUC Policies and Procedures Manual prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC RFP-17-003 – Professional Services to Update CUC's Rules and Regulations and CUC's Policies and Procedures Manual"* to the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 10, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competitive offerors.

All offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information of understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award of a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offerors are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. This bid and the ensuring contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI business license in compliance with the licensing laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of the contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 24, 2016,** to Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address at manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant, via email address at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Hillbroom accuses Lujan, Israel of harassment

Junior Larry Hillbroom accused his former lawyers David J. Lujan and Barry Israel of harassing him by flooding him with requests for information, responses, and appearances—considering that he currently has no lawyer.

In a declaration filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI last week, Hillbroom asked the court to move the hearing on Lujan's and Israel's motion to compel, from Nov. 10, 2016, to Nov. 30, 2016, so he can continue to work on finding a lawyer.

Hillbroom said he hired a law firm in Palau to help him identify law firms in the U.S. mainland that can take over his lawsuit against Lujan and Israel. He said many of those firms are still reviewing his files and are in discussion with him and his Palau lawyers.

Since he is in Palau, where the Internet is very slow and the phone service is very poor, finding a lawyer in the U.S. requires a lot of extra time and effort, Hillbroom said.

He said he is spending most of his time working on finding a good law firm to replace his former counsel, the Girardi and Keese law firm.

Even with his current search for a lawyer, Lujan and Israel keep filing documents that they know he cannot respond to without a counsel, Hillbroom said. He said he received an overwhelming number of motions from Lujan and Israel, asking for discovery.

He said his understanding is that the Nov. 10, 2016, hearing date was continued to Nov. 30, 2016, and that during this period he was given time to search for a lawyer.

Hillbroom said it is his understanding that his former counsel has already responded to all of the discovery requests.

Hillbroom also disclosed that he received bills from Lujan and Israel for the one-hour telephone conference that he (Hillbroom) missed on Sept. 19, 2016. He said he clearly remembers that the court stated that lawyers' fees have to be reasonable and that each person can collect one hour of fees for their time.

"But like I said through my former counsel in this lawsuit, they are billing me again for excessive fees and taking advantage of me," he said.

Hillbroom said Lujan and Israel are submitting requests for more than one hour—three hours ($1,050) and 4.6 hours ($1,610).

"I think I only have to pay one hour each," he added.

The trial of Hillbroom's legal malpractice lawsuit against Lujan and Israel is currently set for a jury trial on Feb. 22, 2017.

The Supreme Court of the Republic of Palau Trial Division has allowed the temporary release of Hillbroom upon posting a cash bail of $275,000 and required him to provide a copy of any notice of deposition, hearing or other court-required appearance for his lawsuits in the CNMI and other jurisdictions.

Last April 20, Palau Trial Division Associate Justice Lourdes Materne granted Hillbroom's temporary release upon posting a $275,000 cash bail.

Last June 7, Materne also granted Hillbroom's motion for modification of his conditions of release.

Hillbroom is one of the four DNA-proven children of the late business tycoon and DHL co-founder Larry Lee Hillblom. He was captured in Palau hours after he allegedly escaped from police's custody last Feb. 19, just a few days after he was arrested over the seizure of $160,000 worth of 160 grams of methamphetamine or "ice."

Hillbroom, 31, was recaptured after he allegedly dove into the water and tried to swim when police tracked a vehicle at a dock in a town called Meyuns Hamlet in Palau, according to news reports.

Hillbroom's mother, Kaelani Kinney, is a Palauan. Hillbroom is based in the U.S. mainland.

Hillbroom's name is spelled differently from DHL co-founder Larry Hillblom.

Hillbroom is suing Lujan and Israel for allegedly conspiring with a former trustee to inflate the attorney's contingency fee when Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings in Superior Court.

Hillblom, founder of DHL Express, died in a plane crash off Anatahan waters in 1995. His body was never recovered.

Approximately $100 million in assets were distributed to Hillbroom in the settlement of the probate case for Hillblom estate. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

AMP offers paid internship

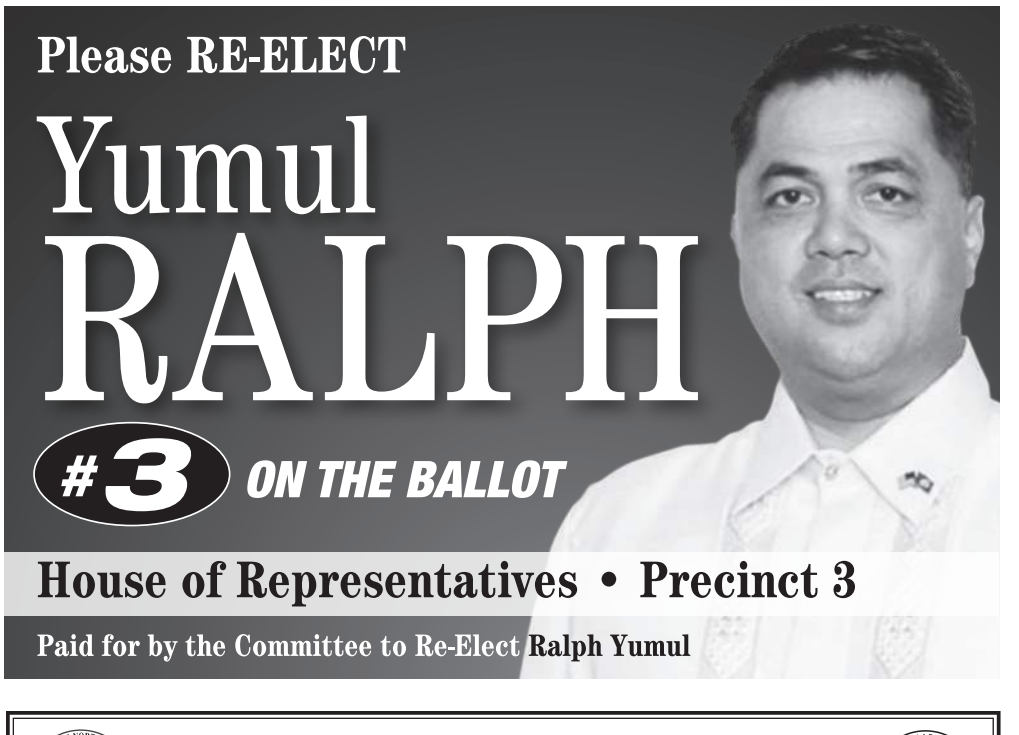
National Park Service officials would like to inform the public of federal career opportunities at the American Memorial Park.

The park just opened a vacancy announcement for a student trainee (park guide), a part-time temporary position. Applicants must be accepted for enrollment or enrolled in a degree or certificate program on at least a half-time basis and in good standing. The pay rate begins at $13.84 per hour, plus 13.70 percent cost of living allowance and federal benefits.

The vacancy announcement will be open from Oct. 20 to Oct. 26 (eastern standard time).

Federal jobs are posted at www.USAJOBS.gov. If you do not have a current USAJOBS account, you will need to create one online at https://login.usajobs.gov/Account/Create

Please keep in mind that all applicants must submit a resume, and include other pertinent information, e.g., SF 50, DD 214, etc., to be considered. ***(NPS)***



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-004

Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Station Service Generator Sets at Power Plants 1 and 4

ADDENDUM NO. 1
Dated: October 24, 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is hereby issuing the following amendment to CUC-RFP-17-004:

- **WAIVER OF RFP PACKAGE FEE:**

The $200.00 fee payment requirement to obtain an RFP Package has been waived. *Registered Prospective Offerors that registered before October 24, 2016 will receive a full reimbursement by CUC. Please contact Marcela Tenorio via e-mail address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org for assistance in obtaining a reimbursement.*

/s/ GARY P. CAMACHO
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-004

Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Station Service Generator Sets at Power Plants 1 and 4

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced contractors, including their local authorized representatives for the Supply, Installation & Commissioning of one (1) each 750 kW Diesel Generating Set at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base and one (1) each 200 kW Diesel Generating Set at CUC Power Plant No. 4, Puerto Rico, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Contractor shall provide and pay for all labor, materials, tools, equipment, transportation, temporary construction of every nature, and all other services and facilities necessary to execute, complete and deliver the Diesel Generating Sets and work within the specified time frame.

CUC intends to select one proposer to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's station service power supply requirements at Power Plant No. 1 and 4.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **October 27, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 and 4 facilities will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal, though it is not a mandatory requirement.

Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID.

One (1) original and Five (6) hard copies and 1 Compact Disc (CD) of the entire submission in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-004 – Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Station Service Generator Sets at Power plants 1 and 4"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 18, 2016.** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 31, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address - Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Power Generation APCM/PM via email address - venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Opinion

Hafa Adai
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

The limits of Facebook's 'Trending' machinery

Facebook is "a tech company, not a media company." That's not just the opinion of a few traditional journalists. It's a quote from Mark Zuckerberg, the tech company's founder and CEO. And as Facebook's recent troubles with truth illustrate, it's a fact users need to remember.

Facebook may be a good place to keep up with friends and acquaintances, but when it comes to getting the news, it can't substitute for the judgment of professionals at a news organization you trust.

For several weeks, Washington Post bloggers tracked the stories they saw featured under the "Trending" banner high on the Facebook home page. They found humorous fake news, such as an article claiming that a new version of Siri would make the iPhone "something like Aladdin's lamp," from which a physical assistant would appear to do your chores. They found news they said turned out to be inaccurate. They found blog posts and press releases.

These pieces of content were presumably popular, or at least related to popular topics. Otherwise, Facebook's software would not have selected them. But popularity does not turn satire into news.

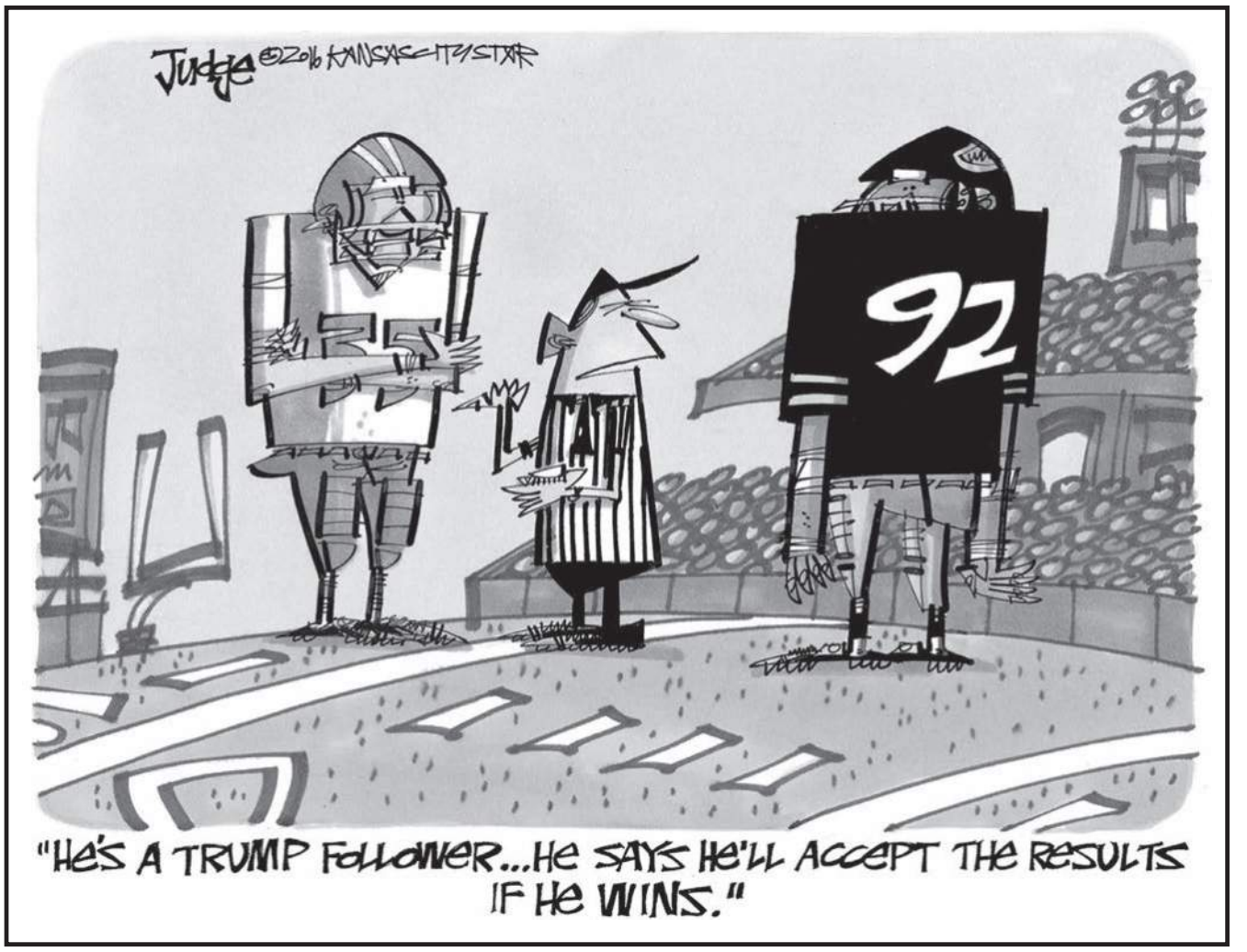
Nevertheless, Facebook presented them as "Trending" because it does not have editors. It got rid of them this summer after being accused of political bias. Now its trending topics are reviewed by engineers, who were given instructions that call for so little human judgment they might be computers.

Putting together a news report requires judgment. Editors bring a lot to that judgment that would be hard for software to replace. There's common sense. There's effort. There's professional expertise, both on current affairs and on the process of gathering and evaluating news. There is the recognition that sometimes the most important things for people to know, and especially for citizens of a republic to know, aren't the things that get the most clicks. Most important, there is an ethical commitment to the truth.

And if that ethical commitment is not enough, it's backed by powerful incentives Facebook does not share. If you are in the news business, all you have is your credibility; if people don't trust you, they won't visit your site, let alone pay for a newspaper or a digital subscription. If you are a social-media site, people will keep coming whether you provide good journalism or not.

None of this is to say that Facebook doesn't provide valuable services. But giving you an accurate report of the most important news of the day is not Facebook's competency, or ambition. To better see and understand the world, you need journalists—fellow humans.

(c)2016 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*



The new way to influence people

By ROBERT CIALDINI
Los Angeles Times

Robert B. Cialdini is a behavioral scientist and author of the new book Pre-Suasion: A Revolutionary Way to Influence and Persuade. *He wrote this for* the Los Angeles Times.

Today and every day we are the targets of salespeople, marketers, advertisers, fundraisers and (heaven knows) politicians trying to persuade us to buy something, do something or think a certain way. And they're good at it. Over the years, they've learned a lot about which features to build into a communication and which psychological strings to strum with that communication to elevate its success.

But, by concentrating so intently on the message itself, they've missed a crucial component of the process. Research done in the last 15 years shows that optimal persuasion is achieved through optimal pre-suasion: the practice of arranging for people to agree with a message before they know what's in it.

Pre-suasion works by focusing people's preliminary attention on a selected concept—let's say softness—which spurs them to overvalue related opportunities that immediately follow. In one study, visitors to an online sofa store were sent to a site that depicted either soft clouds or small coins in the background of its landing page. Those who saw the soft clouds were more likely to prefer soft, comfortable sofas for purchase whereas those who saw the small amounts of money preferred inexpensive models. (When questioned afterward, the visitors refused to believe what they saw pre-suasively—clouds or coins—had influenced them at all.)

A subsequent study showed the primitiveness of the pre-suasive mechanism. Subjects became three times more likely to help a researcher who "accidentally" dropped some items if, immediately before, they'd been exposed to images of figures standing together in a friendly pose. If this tripling of helpfulness doesn't seem remarkable enough, consider that the subjects were 18 months old—hardly able to reason or review or reflect.

Long before scientists started studying the process, a few notable communicators had an intuitive understanding of it. Some instructive examples are available.

In 1588, British troops massed against a sea invasion from Spain at Tilbury were deeply concerned that their leader Queen Elizabeth I, as a woman, would not be up to the rigors of battle. In addressing the men, she dispelled their fears pre-suasively: first acknowledging their concern by admitting a weakness, which established her honesty for whatever she said next, and then following it with a strength that demolished the weakness. "I know," she asserted," I have the body of a weak and feeble woman. But I have the heart of a king, and a king of England, too."

It's reported that so long and loud were the cheers after this pronouncement that officers had to ride among the men ordering them to restrain themselves so the queen could continue.

The same pre-suasive, honesty-establishing tactic was employed in the late 1950s by the advertising firm Doyle Dane Bernbach to introduce the oddly shaped Volkswagen Beetle to a U.S. market dominated by big, powerful, boat-like vehicles. The "We're ugly but ... " campaign tactically admitted to cosmetic limitations before trumpeting the auto's strengths such as economy, reliability and simplicity ("Ugly is only skin deep." "It's ugly but it gets you there"). Credited with cracking open the U.S. market for compact cars, the ad campaign has been rated among the greatest of all time.

As national security advisor and secretary of State during the 1970s, Henry Kissinger was considered America's greatest international negotiator. When asked who he considered the best such negotiator he had encountered, he nominated Egypt's then-President Anwar Sadat. Why? Because of a pre-suasive tactic Sadat regularly employed that allowed him to get more from a negotiation than was warranted by his political or military position. Before beginning negotiations, he would assign an admirable trait to the opposing side (perhaps Israelis' "well-known" tradition of fairness or sympathy for the underdog or support for those in need) that fit with what he wanted. In other words, Kissinger said, "Sadat gave his opponents a reputation to live up to"—something they then did remarkably often.

In February 2015, the financial investor Warren Buffett had a problem. It was 50 years since he had taken control of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., guiding it to astounding levels of value, along with his brilliant partner Charlie Munger. Many investors were worried that, because Buffett and Munger were getting older, these levels couldn't be maintained in the future, perhaps making it time to sell Berkshire stock.

To respond to these concerns, Buffett wrote a letter to shareholders in which he recounted various reasons for confidence in Berkshire's continuing profitability. But, before the description of strengths, he declared with characteristic

See PEOPLE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

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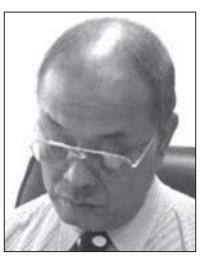


By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Guaha `nai manmatompu` hit manatma na mañan hita ha` dinanche. Ta hala tatte konsiderasion gi prohimu-ta pot tailaye na sensian imbidia. Lastima sa` ta hasñgun plumanta sensian hipokritu gi gueku na tinayuyot yan misa gi semana. Ti umaya i tinayuyot yan mala`et na dinisehan korason-ta.

Taya` mas ma`ug ke mauleg na amesta yan prohimu-mu. Guaha siempre na un` fagcha`e sumen chatsaga ya i mas ti un` añgog-hu na tautau umefresi hau ayudu. Hombre, i tanu` ridondu pues haf` kumilulog huyuñg siempre u ta`lu tatte.

Poresu na mauleg tana` fan geftau hit sensian mauleg na amista piot gi prohimu-ta ni numessita ayudu. Mafattu tatte mas dañkulu na premiu para hita!

Destrosiun Hinemlu`

I usun mama` desde antigu na tiempu establisau kumu patte gi kustumbren tanu`. I kanastran mama` ma-offesi i bisita `an mattu bumiahe pot nesessidat. Kulan tane` para tutuhon konbetsasion estake ha sañgan haf` sessu finatoña.

Tomtum na usu i mama`. Nina` batbaru i bisita sumañgan dibuenamente haf` finattoña. Dispues `nai sige mona i konbetsasion `nai maho`yi pat mañega haf` finaiseseña. Estague` kinemprendeghu usun mama` antes.

Pa`gu, kontodu manhoben na famaguon umu`usa diariu. Tafa` banidosuta `an mafuyut i chipa gi entalu` pugua` mañaña`. Taya` inadahe haf` mohon para u padesi i prohimu `an sige mona. Klaru pa`gu na usun pugua` na`kanset! Adahe famaguon miyu piot gi usun chupa yan pugua`.

Huli`e giya Hawaii yan Filipinas mana` suhan kihadas tres tautau-ta pot kanset ginen mama`. Unu matai dispues pot inaditi esta ni kanset. Mas obra chenot kanset desde halum pachut halum esta guetgueru, estomagu, yan otru siha patte gi sanhalom-ta `nai unna daña` pugua`, amaska sino chupa yan afuk.

Libianu lokue` ha atisa chenot korason, daibites, higadu, yan otru siha chenot ni sentita suponi ginen bisiun mama`. Maulegña in` chagu`e ke in` chansa manmamadesi pot diskuidu.

Benefisiun Mañgu`

Lamegai estudiu tinaitaihu pot usun mañgu` (turmeric). Un` hali` tinanum ni ma-u`usa para amut pot mas ke dos mit años gi mandañkulu siha na nasion.

Benefisioña gaige na mauleg para mansuhetan pokpuk gi sanhalum tautau ni tumututuhun dineku` chenot siha ni mafanana`an "inflammation". Este i pekpuk umatitisa todu klasen chenot gi tatautau-ta. I mañgu` rimibabaha maseha haf` na pokpuk.

Ayu na kosas i mafanana`an plaque ni umestototba gigat korason yan titanos-ta adumididi` nina` fañuha ni mañgu`. Mas homlu` korasonmu yan titanosmu gi karera mona. Kasi ti un` nina`ye chenot hamalefa. Abundansia este na hali` enteru iya Marianas. Chage umusa diariu.

Kuantu na mañgu` para unna` setbi? Nasetbi kalulotmu apunteria. Estague` na mineduñg mauleg. Nagasgas, dispues yute` halum gi blender yan fina` gimen tat kumu juice pat Seven Up. Gigun un` bati, pega dispues gi basu ya un` gimen. Chogue este diariu.

Pot Chaleg

Sige dibate haf` taimanu para tana` anaku` ha`anita. Puru pot haf mauleg na boka yan gimen kontodu eksisiu gi semana. Mauleg!

Lau tatnai hu guiefe la`la` mas ke 70 años. Esta hu chogue checho-hu. Nahuñg! Haf` baliña para bai gacha` ochenta años `nai ni kemun tihu tuñgu` manu `nai gaige? Pot fabot bai aksepta uttimu disposision antes de bai nina`ye fafat-ta. Dios mihu!

Haf` baliña la`la` esta sientus años `nai ni na`an-mu ti un` tuñgu` sino ni para un` kahulu` ti siña? Gai binali `an brarabu ha` fuetsa-mu. `An maliñgu, maulegña lokue` un` diñgu i lugat! Tatnai sisida ni lalu` ti siña un` sugun gi guieñg-mu!

Bisita I Man-Amku`

`Nai hu bisita un` tihuhu, estaba i amku` gi kelat babue munana` chochu. Ha falague lokue` pinegsaiña manog antes de minachum atdau.

Dispues matachoñg gi papa` troñkun mañga dumeskansan ñaihon. Magof pot finatog-hu ya sige chumaleg `nai sige mona konbetsasion mame.

Esta pot mas ke dies años desde ke diniñgu ni difunta asaguaña. Asolas mabesisita ni famaguoña. Mampos nina` mamagof `an mangaige nietus yan nietas gi oriyaña. "Siha i flores hatdin korasonhu". Ha agradesi i sentimentun patgon ni tai malisia. "Tunas todu finu` niha".

`An kulan mampus tristi, huna paseha un` ratu gi señgsoñg dispues hu fahani sitbesa para bai pañgun tatte i hagas mahatma na kustumbreña. Gigon sinaulag ni gimeña seguru na ha lapblayu` amanu i siña. Antes de bai`n adiñgu ayu sessu fino`ña, "Cha`mu malelefa ni prohimu-mu". Kulan i finu`

Hekkua` Maria!

Dispues de felisitasion mauleg na amesta, sige ham dispues yan un` retirau umachatge pot mampus diskalentau yan abarambau kinalamten i tanu`.

Ilegña, "Guaha 13 pot sientu ti manma-empleleha pa`gu. Malag manu i masasañgan na adelantun ekonomia?" Hekkua` Maria!

"Para u guaha SNAP guine. Tinatiye ni minimum wage pot para uma-asegura na megai u fan gatdun gi fache` pinepble. Este guinifen niha i sabiun hegsu` I Deni`?", mamaisen i amighu. Hekkua` Maria!

"Taya` presisu na kosas mantension gi hospitat guine lau bula dispetdisiun salape` man-bakasion giya Luta yan Tinian yan enteru tautau niha cabinet", ha apunta huyuñg. Hekkua` Maria!

"Kada hinigua` i tanu` te`ug na problema gumupu si Rafet para otru lugat pot para u letki i asuntun linahyan siha". Hekkua` Maria!

"`An tafaisen i kandidatu siha mansustansiau na kuestion ni unu kapas inipeña lau manmalalagu ta`lu". Hekkua` Maria!

"Food stamps yan minimum wage inepen niha i mansabiun hegsu` I Deni` kumu prefektu meskla `nai para u fan mafa` esklabu i tautau. Estague` uttimimu nina` siñan sessu maigu` na kabesan niha". Hekkua` Maria!

Ti Kabales I Patte

Hu nañggan ñañaihon i nuebu na koru na u fañganta pot ti maresibi patten niha ginen kestat casino. Estague` piniligruña moneda ni ti mafachuchu`e. Piot ya ti mapatte i taicho`, añgoghu na mañganta dispues i pumalu gi koru, ke dehemunos de kompas!

I fafayin i taicho` siempre un` dia u masge` sin ditension `nai hokog para u patten ñaihon gi disipulun esklabu. Siempre u tutuhun mañganta na ti nahuñg patten niha. Sige mona, siha yan siha man-atrukus esta halum gi kotte yan presu!

Solutions to lack of adequate homecare and respite care

By JEANNE RAYPHAND
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

November is a month of holidays: Citizenship Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving, and is National Novel Writing Month. November has also been declared National Family Caregivers Month, National Diabetes Awareness Month, Epilepsy Awareness Month, Lung Cancer Awareness Month, and Pancreatic Awareness Month.

And, significantly this year, it is a time for making decisions on Election Day.

Awareness of a problem is not enough. We need action. Creating a program or an office without funding to provide services is insufficient. And, when the Legislature is unwilling or unable to provide adequate funding, then it is time for our community—family, friends, neighbors, businesses—to step up and help out.

Taking care of our elderly has in the past been an important, if not the most important, cultural value on these islands. Saving one's language to preserve a culture is one thing, but saving the basic cultural way of life in caring for our elderly, our people with disabilities and illness, and our homeless must be preserved.

On Saturday, Oct. 29, 2016, at 10am, we will hold a second meeting to consider alternatives and solutions to the lack of adequate home care and respite care, particularly for our elderly. If you or a loved one are in need of such services or assistive technology, or if you have ideas on how to assist, please join us at the office of Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. We would welcome your ideas and input.

Also, you are invited to witness the signing of the proclamation for National Family Caregivers Month and National Diabetes Awareness Month to be held on Oct. 31, at 9am at the Governor's Office.

Meanwhile, I am sure that many of you know of a person who is no longer able to walk, who needs help in getting from bed to a wheelchair, who needs a caregiver to provide daily home care, who is no longer able to get out of the house. Reach out, call and visit that person. Support the caregiver by offering them a few hours of respite time.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The future of the indigenous people of the CNMI

Iam a 19 years old Carolinian-Palauan-Chuukese. I'd like to think that I'm funny, witty and somewhat intelligent—I shall be attending nursing school at NMC. For all of my self-assured wide-awakeness, I'm somewhat confused as to my/our future as the indigenous inhabitants of these beautiful islands. Therefore, I'm asking for your help or input in assisting me to clear my confused mind.

The other day while at the post office, I overheard a "white American" speaking with another American guy (I don't mean to sound rude or racist) and he was saying, "Well, yeah the Chinese companies are gentrifying this island—after the locals sell their land, they'll be in poverty." Now I didn't know what "gentrifying" meant at that time, so I asked my friends and a lot of them didn't know either so I looked it up on Google. (You should, too).

Anyway, I began thinking about what our local politicians are doing to "us"—the indigenous future of these islands. I began to wonder: how could they allow foreign companies to come here and over-develop, pollute and cement over our once beautiful islands. How could they care more about the ever increasing population of foreign workers yet do nothing to train local workers or to make sure that U.S. citizens are employed first. How could they make a deal with foreign companies that give foreign employees housing, meals and transportation yet forces local families out on the streets due to a lack of affordable housing, inflated food prices, and inflated gas prices. Lastly, how could our politicians worry so much about contract workers families while our indigenous American families are forced into destitution, poverty and subjection by foreign companies? Can anyone of you on Capital Hill tell me what your plan is for the future of "us"—the indigenous people of these beautiful islands?

Jasmine Taman
Gualo Rai, Saipan

PEOPLE

From Page 10

sincerity that what he was about to assert was "what I would say to my family today if they asked me about Berkshire's future." The result was a flood of favorable reaction to the letter (with headlines like "You'd be a fool not to invest in Berkshire Hathaway" and "Warren Buffett just wrote the best annual letter ever"), as well as a per-share increase for the year of nearly five times that of the S&P. I can say that, as a Berkshire Hathaway stockholder, I have never since thought of selling any shares. After all, Buffett had given me the same recommendation he first declared he'd give to a family member.

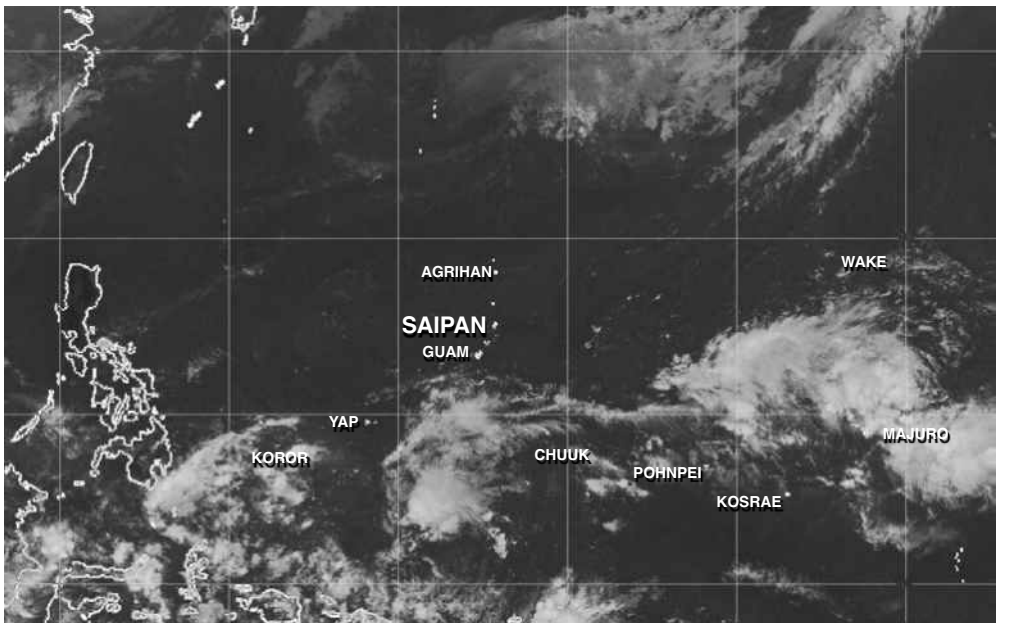
With considerable success, practitioners of social influence have always placed persuasive prods—glowing testimonials, emotional tugs, last-chance opportunities—inside their appeals. Perhaps because of that success, they've mostly missed an accompanying truth. For maximum impact, it's not only what you do; it's also what you do just before you do what you do.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:52 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2016

WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

High pressure was located to the north around 20N. The pressure gradient between these two features will elevate the winds over the Marianas today the part of Wednesday slightly, with east winds of 10 to 20 mph expected. A dry season weather pattern will settle in through the week with only partly cloudy skies and isolated showers expected. Trade-wind convergence will bring an increase in clouds and a higher chance of showers Friday night through Monday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly cloudy	83 / 90 °F
Palau	Partly sunny	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	80 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Partly sunny	80 / 87 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	77 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Afternoon clouds	82 / 87 °F
Majuro	Morning clouds	83 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Partly cloudy	55 / 64 °F
Beijing	Partly cloudy	42 / 56 °F
Hong Kong	Partly cloudy	78 / 83 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	72 / 80 °F
London	Morning clouds	51 / 62 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	58 / 76 °F
Manila	Partly cloudy	81 / 91 °F
Melbourne	Partly sunny	50 / 67 °F
Miami	Partly sunny	72 / 82 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	40 / 50 °F
Osaka	Partly cloudy	62 / 77 °F
Paris	Mostly sunny	47 / 61 °F
Pusan	High level clouds	55 / 71 °F
Rome	Afternoon clouds	63 / 77 °F
Salem	Cloudy	53 / 62 °F
San Francisco	High level clouds	58 / 68 °F
Seoul	High level clouds	48 / 65 °F
Tokyo	Mostly sunny	56 / 73 °F
Washington, DC	High level clouds	36 / 55 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
4:12 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.49 Feet
10:37 AM	LOW TIDE	0.36 Feet
5:13 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.86 Feet
11:40 PM	LOW TIDE	0.6 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Saturday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Sunday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	2:24 AM	3:03 PM
Thursday	3:13 AM	3:43 PM
Friday	4:01 AM	4:21 PM
Saturday	4:48 AM	5:00 PM
Sunday	5:36 AM	5:39 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Parishioners begin the procession throughout Koblerville village in commemoration to St. Jude's Annual Fiesta on Oct. 23, 2016.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS

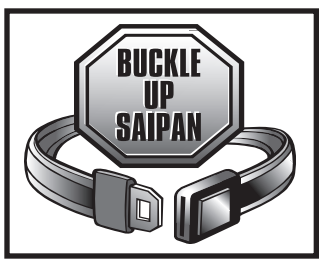
Catholic faithful celebrate St. Jude fiesta

The Catholic faithful celebrated the annual St. Jude Fiesta at the St. Jude Parish in Koblerville last Sunday, with Bishop Ryan Jimenez D.D., Msgr. James L.G. Benavente, and Fr. James Balajadia leading the celebration.

"It was, in one word, beautiful," said Balajadia. "Beautiful because a whole community of people just came together, united by faith, united by culture, and united by their love in Jesus Christ. We're all different; we all lead different paths in our lives so it's beautiful how we all rallied together."

According to Balajadia, the fiesta is an annual event but he and several other parishioners have been spending about two months of intense preparations prior to the celebration. "We asked benefactors, leaders in the community, business leaders, and just dedicated people who are willing to spend their time, talent, and treasures because they want to glorify God and honor our patron St. Jude."

Balajadia has officially been working with St. Jude Parish as of November of last year. St. Jude Parish is located in Koblerville Village. For more information, email Balajadia at balajadiasaipan@yahoo.com. ***(Michael T. Santos)***



SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan

NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 et seq., as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA) Board hereby gives notice of the Regular Monthly Board Meeting set for Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 9:00 am at the SHEFA Office, 2nd Floor, Ladera Center Building, Beach Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Roll Call
   2. Adoption of Agenda
   3. Adoption of Minutes from August 11, 2016

II. **Public Comments**

III. **Reports**
   1. Administrator
   2. Chair
   3. COMMITTEES
      a. Committee on Awards
      b. Committee on Appeal/Deferments/Forbearance
      c. Committee on Policy and Procedures
      d. Committee on Program and Development
      e. Committee of Fiscal, Legislative and Community Affairs

IV. **Old Business**
   1. SHEFA on Disability
   2. House Resolution 19-10

V. **New Business**
   1. Fall 2016 Application Status
   2. Amended CGPA for new applicants
   3. Military Service

VI. **Executive Session – Appeals (closed)**

VII. **Misc.**

VIII. **Next Meeting**

IX. **Adjournment**

Note: Meeting may continue the following day should the need arise.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
PO Box 520059 • San Jose Village • Tinian, MP 96952
Phone (670) 433-2200 • Fax (670) 433-1819
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that the Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose Village, Tinian **will be postponed until further notice.** We apologize for the inconvenience.

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARY**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of Agenda
   4. Adoption of Minutes October 22, 2016

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**[1]

III. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**[2]

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. Hearing for letter of appeal

V. **MISCELLANEOUS MATTER**

VI. **SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING**

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

/S/ Antonio L. Borja
Chairman

[1] We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.

[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

[3] Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2587 • Fax (670) 664-2571

BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Division of Historic Preservation, under the auspices of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, hereby give notice that the annual Historic Preservation Review Board meeting will be held on Thursday, November 3, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. to 4:00p.m., over at the Office on Aging Center's Conference Room, located across the Garapan Central Park.

Interested individuals are invited to attend.

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARIES**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Orientation of a New Board Member
   4. Adoption of Agenda
   5. Adoption of Minutes – March 9-20, 2016

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

III. **OLD BUSINESS**
   1. HPO Regulation Update
   2. Staff Archaeologist Update
   3. Historian/Archival Researcher Update
   4. Other Old Business

IV. **New Business**
   1. Zip Line Project (Saipan Adventure Tour)
   2. Alter City Project Update (Tinian)
   3. Human Remains Policy
   4. Saipan Review and Compliance Update
   5. Rota Program Update
   6. Tinian Program Update
   7. HPO 2017 Local Budget Update
   8. HPO FY2015 & FY2016 HPF Grants Update

V. **OTHER MATTERS**

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

/s/ Pedro A. Duenas
Chairman, CNMI HPO Review Board

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-RFP-17-006

MAUI SHAFT WELLS REHABILITATION PROJECT, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to develop the method and perform the construction work to remove the cave in soil material in the Maui 4 Shaft Well tunnel and rehabilitate the existing buildings, platforms, shaft, electrical components, elevator system and all other items listed in the scope of work for the Maui 1 and 4 shaft wells. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is **375 calendar days** from date of award.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **November 8, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Maui Shaft Wells facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-17-006 –Maui Shaft Wells Rehabilitation Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 29, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 10, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water-Wastewater Jr. Engineer via email address yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-008

BULK CHLORINE STORAGE FACILITY

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the construction of a facility for the bulk storage of the CUC's chlorine supply in Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of a building and site improvements to adequately store and secure chlorine gas cylinders, including all appurtenances and features necessary to comply with applicable standards, regulations and codes. The storage facility includes a chlorine storage area, an operator area to store personal protective equipment and an electrical/mechanical room, emergency showers, eye washing stations, chlorine gas scrubber equipment, ventilation system, fire protection, alarm systems and emergency power.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Justen Landan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **November 3, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-008, Bulk Chlorine Storage Facility Project"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 21, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. *Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.*

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

All responses to this Invitation for should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 7, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email address john.riegel@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.
Purchasing Officer

SENATORIAL CANDIDATES

2 HOCOG, George Ogo
1st Senatorial District
Rota

2 BORJA, Francisco Manglona
2nd Senatorial District
Tinian and Aguiguan

1 IGISOMAR, Sixto Kaipat
3rd Senatorial District
Saipan & Northern Islands

DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISES
HIGHLIGHTS OF CNMI GOP'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The CNMI Republican Party holds its head high this election. Two years ago, the Republican Party offered the voters a vision for our islands in which economic growth was a reality, that anyone who wanted a job could have one, and that our government can be more responsible for our obligations, public service delivery, and to our precious retirees. This year we are proud of the successes we have achieved together.

Significant Increase in Gross Budgetary Resources

Real Economic Recovery is Happening under your Republican Solution Driven Leadership.

Fiscal Year 2017	$274,649,298 (approx., including casino revenues)
Fiscal Year 2016	$245,550,000 (approx., including casino revenues)
Fiscal Year 2015	$170,055,000
Fiscal Year 2014	$145,954,000

Casino Gaming Industry

The Republican Party is for a strong, stable and prosperous economy that allows for new industries to support the needs of our people. So to create jobs, improve our quality of life, promote prosperity, deliver excellent public services for our people, and bring our economy to full recovery, the Solution-Driven Republican Party established the Casino Industry which, among others, has contributed financial resources to enrich our public services, provided jobs to nearly 500 CNMI residents, and has allowed for greater economic growth to find a footing on our islands.

Economic Prosperity for All

Alongside the gaming industry, the CNMI economy is growing faster and stronger than we have witnessed in a generation. More businesses are hiring our residents and small businesses are taking an active role in building the economy of tomorrow. More small businesses are opening, finding success on our islands, and contributing to the prosperity of our community. More investment has been spurred through local and foreign sources, and partnerships with federal resources, such as the State Small Business Credit Initiative, have produced greater opportunities for our entire community thanks to the hard work of your Republican government.

Since 2013, the number of new businesses has steadily grown, from 534 in 2013 to 705 in 2015, an indication that the economy is recovering and niche markets growing as our gaming and tourism industries continue to develop.

The State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) is a program created to increase the amount of capital made available by private lenders to small businesses. The CNMI Department of Commerce, through CDA, has placed about 81% of the $4,345,555 or $3,521,739 of the first disbursement into the hands of entrepreneurs/small businesses. U.S. Treasury has released the 2nd disbursement of $4,345,555 to Commerce after meeting the 80% threshold.

Government Responsibility

For Fiscal Year 2016, the House has passed HB 19-194, appropriating the casino gross receipts tax to clear outstanding obligations and support utility subsidies:

1. Commonwealth Health Care Corporation (CHCC) **$16 million towards CUC debt**
2. Medical Referral Program **$1.6 million**
3. Land Compensation Judgments **$9 million**
4. Public School System **$2.9 million for outstanding CUC balance**
5. LEAC Subsidy **$2.5 million**

Under this Republican Government, your tax dollars are being used to finally make payments on outstanding government obligations and restore trust in the financial responsibilities of CNMI public service providers.

Tourism Industry

The Solution- Driven Republican Leadership supports a strong tourism industry, a major economic engine for the CNMI's economy, and has earmarked funding for the Marianas Visitors Authority as follows:

Fiscal Year 2017	$15,070,958
Fiscal Year 2016	$12,160,000
Fiscal Year 2015	$12,160,000
Fiscal Year 2014	$7,340,000

Remaining strategic in its expenditures for offshore marketing and promotions and on-island destination enhancement and community events sponsored by MVA, the number of tourist arrivals continue to climb, as depicted below, surpassing in FY 2016 the half-million mark since 2005:

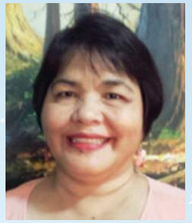
Fiscal Year 2016	501,489
Fiscal Year 2015	479,679
Fiscal Year 2014	442,860
Fiscal Year 2013	433,299

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

★★★ PRECINCT 1 ★★★

4 DEMAPAN, Angel Aldan

5 DELEON GUERRERO, Joseph Pinaula



6 MARATITA, Janet Ulloa

7 SABLAN, Antonio Pangelinan

8 GUERRERO, Joseph Lee Pan Tenorio

11 SABLAN, Gregorio Jr. Muna

★★★ PRECINCT 2 ★★★

1 DEMAPAN, Rafael Sablan

2 SABLAN, John Paul Palacios

★★★ PRECINCT 3 ★★★

2 DELA CRUZ, Francisco Santos

7 BLANCO, Ivan Alafanso

8 BARCINAS, Donald Cabrera

9 ITIBUS, Jose Ilo

★★★ PRECINCT 4 ★★★

1 IGITOL, Alice Santos

5 CAMACHO, George Norita

★★★ PRECINCT 5 ★★★

3 AGUON, Francisco Concepcion

5 AGULTO, Antonio Reyes

★★ PRECINCT 6 ★★ ★★ PRECINCT 7 ★★

2 ALDAN Edwin Palacios

1 MARATITA, Glenn Lizama

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog along with the CNMI Republican Board of Directors are respectfully asking for your support and votes of confidence to elect Your Republican Candidates.

WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED SO MUCH TOGETHER, PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CONTINUE MOVING THE CNMI FORWARD

PLEASE VOTE REPUBLICAN!

Paid for by the CNMI Republican Party – Rufin S. Inos, Treasurer

Business

What's next for AT&T megadeal?

NEW YORK (AP)—AT&T is following in the footsteps of its rival Comcast in snapping up its own entertainment conglomerate—in this case, Time Warner. But what's happened in the aftermath of Comcast's 2011 purchase of NBCUniversal may cast a shadow over AT&T's deal.

Like that earlier transaction, the $85.4 billion combination of AT&T and Time Warner would create a giant new company that not only produces movies, TV shows and sports and news programming but also delivers them to viewers.

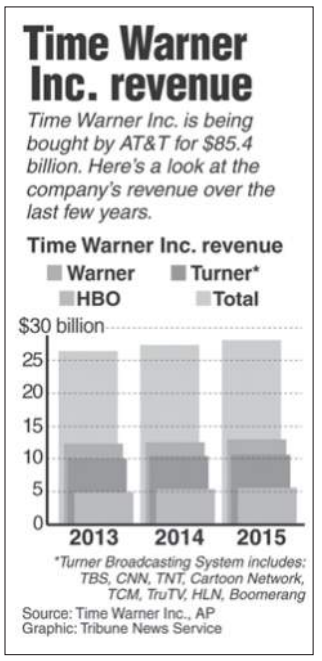
Time Warner owns popular channels like HBO, CNN, TNT and TBS, plus Warner Bros. movies such as the Harry Potter and DC Comics superhero franchises, while AT&T has its mobile network and its DirecTV service.

AT&T says it is looking for ways to provide innovative new services, which means leveraging Time Warner's offerings to attract customers, analysts say. But doing so might easily limit consumer choice should AT&T decide, for instance, to withhold certain shows from its rivals or to grant better access to AT&T customers.

Because AT&T is effectively buying one of its suppliers, not a rival, the deal doesn't directly limit competition, and the company argues that regulators should approve it, possibly with conditions to protect consumers. That's what happened in the case of Comcast and NBC.

But such conditions leave lots of room for interpretation and can be difficult to enforce. They're also usually stamped with an expiration date.

So for a glimpse of what the future might hold for AT&T and Time Warner, a look back at the Comcast-NBC merger can be instructive.



IN COMCAST'S SHADOW

Many of the government's restrictions were designed to prevent Comcast, a giant cable company and internet-service provider, from favoring its own video offerings over those from online TV rivals like Netflix or, on the other hand, keeping its programming from other cable or satellite TV companies.

Comcast says that since 2011, there has been only one violation of the more than 150 federal conditions placed on its deal for NBC. The conditions expire in 2018.

But those conditions have been problematic, public interest groups and some competitors said last year during Comcast's aborted attempt to acquire Time Warner Cable.

"These sorts of behavioral conditions are very hard to write, very hard to enforce and don't necessarily always give you the precise outcome you were looking for," said John Bergmayer, senior staff attorney at public interest group Public Knowledge, which generally opposes media consolidation as harmful to consumers.

LOOKING AT DISPUTES

For instance:

■ Under the conditions set by the government, if Comcast puts news channels near each other on the TV lineup, it must include competitors' channels in the same "neighborhood." But Bloomberg said Comcast unfairly placed Bloomberg TV far away from other popular news and business networks, like Comcast's own CNBC. The Federal Communications Commission agreed with Bloomberg.

■ Comcast was required to provide broadband-only subscriptions that weren't bundled with phone or cable service, so that people could sign up for internet and get any TV they wanted from online alternatives like Amazon or Hulu. In 2012, Comcast was fined $800,000 for not doing enough to let customers know they could do this.

■ Comcast was also forced to treat all internet traffic on its network equally, a version of the government's "net neutrality " rules designed, for instance, to make sure network owners like Comcast and AT&T don't put their own video programming in the internet fast lane while relegating rivals to the slow lane.

Judge faces deadline on $15B Volkswagen emissions deal

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A federal judge in San Francisco is facing a Tuesday deadline to decide whether to approve the largest auto-scandal settlement in U.S. history, giving most affected Volkswagen owners the option for a vehicle buyback after the company acknowledged cheating on emissions testing and putting dirty cars on the road.

U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer said at a hearing last week that he was strongly inclined to give the nearly $15 billion deal final approval but wanted time to consider owners' objections and decide whether he should recommend any changes.

Breyer gave preliminary approval in July. It calls for the German automaker to spend up to $10 billion to buy back or repair about 475,000 Volkswagens and Audi vehicles with 2-liter diesel engines and pay their owners an additional $5,100 to $10,000 each.

The settlement also includes $2.7 billion for unspecified environmental mitigation and an additional $2 billion to promote zero-emissions vehicles.

The scandal has damaged Volkswagen's reputation and hurt its sales. The company is still facing potentially billions more in fines and penalties and possible criminal charges.

Attorneys who negotiated the settlement said it included substantial payments to car owners and had resounding support.

More than 330,000 people have signed up for settlement benefits, with about 3,200 opting out, Elizabeth Cabraser, lead attorney for the plaintiffs, told Breyer at a hearing last week.

Some owners objected, saying they should receive the full purchase price of their vehicles. Mark Dietrich, an Audi owner from San Francisco, told the judge last week that Volkswagen played owners for fools and the settlement didn't go far enough to compensate them for the company's fraud.

Volkswagen attorney Robert Giuffra encouraged Breyer to approve the deal, saying it was good for buyers and would help the company regain people's trust.

The company said in April that it has set aside $18.2 billion to cover the cost of the global scandal, which erupted in September 2015 when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said Volkswagen had fitted many of its cars with software to fool emissions tests. Car owners and the U.S. Department of Justice sued.

Nation

Trump rejects 'phony' polls; he insists 'we are winning'

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. (AP)—A defiant Donald Trump blamed his campaign struggles on "phony polls" from the "disgusting" media on Monday, fighting to energize his most loyal supporters as his path to the presidency shrinks.

With just 14 days until the election, the Republican nominee campaigned in battleground Florida as his team conceded publicly as well as privately that crucial Pennsylvania may be slipping away to Democrat Hillary Clinton. That would leave him only a razor-thin pathway to the 270 electoral votes needed to win the White House on Nov. 8.

Despite continued difficulties with women and minorities, Trump refuses to soften his message in the campaign's final days to broaden his coalition. Yet he offered an optimistic front in the midst of a three-day tour through Florida as thousands began voting there in person.

"I believe we're actually winning," Trump declared during a round table discussion with farmers gathered next to a local pumpkin patch.

A day after suggesting the First Amendment to the Constitution may give journalists too much freedom, he insisted that the media are promoting biased polls to discourage his supporters from voting.

"The media isn't just against me. They're against all of you," Trump told cheering supporters later in St. Augustine. "They're against what we represent."

In more bad news for Trump, a new poll shows young voters turning to Clinton now that the race has settled down to two main candidates. Clinton now leads among likely voters 18 to 30 years in age by 60 percent to 19 percent, according to a new GenForward survey.

Young black voters already were solidly in her corner, and now young whites are moving her way, according to the survey by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Democrats, GOP think Trump could cost GOP House seats

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Clasping the $4,000 check that Orlando area real estate agents handed him, Rep. John Mica stood in the F&D Cantina restaurant and described his pathway to a 13th term in Congress.

"We've got to get everybody out to vote," the Florida Republican told supporters last week. "Don't let it get caught up in any of the other races or issues."

That seemed code for Donald Trump, whose flagging, insult-hurling GOP presidential run carries mixed blessings for Mica in his closely divided, freshly redrawn district.

Mica, 73, says Trump's recorded comments about groping women were "vulgar and unacceptable" but still supports him. Yet in central Florida, a pivotal state in presidential and congressional elections, it's not just the polarizing Trump who's threatening Mica's political career, after few serious challenges before.

In a classic battle of old school vs. new, Mica—known for bringing federal transportation dollars back home—faces Democrat Stephanie Murphy, a political newcomer at 38. Her backstory includes her family's harrowing seaborne escape from Vietnam as an infant, degrees from William & Mary and Georgetown University, positions in the Pentagon and the worlds of finance and academia. She even holds a patent for women's softball pants made by a company her husband runs.

Mica and Murphy live blocks apart in Winter Park but say they'd never met until this campaign. Now, they're vying for one of many suburban districts that Democrats must win to achieve what seemed unthinkable until recently—House control.

With only several dozen of the House's 435 seats competitive, Democrats need a daunting 30-seat gain to take over. But with Trump sputtering in the polls and Election Day barely two weeks off, Democrats say and Republicans fear he'll take some congressional Republicans down with him.

Authorities find no sign of braking by bus driver in crash

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)—Ana Car didn't remember the sudden impact, only that she woke up among dead and injured passengers in a dark bus filled with screams of terror and agony.

The retired factory worker had spent an evening gambling at a desert casino and was sound asleep when the bus heading to Los Angeles smashed into the rear of a slow-moving tractor-trailer. The crash killed the bus driver and 12 passengers and injured 31 other people.

"I can't believe how many died," she said, sobbing Monday as she recovered from bumps, bruises and a sore back. "It was so horrible. These images are going to stay in my head for life."

The National Transportation Safety Board was investigating the collision, which is one of the deadliest wrecks in California history.

The truck was creeping along at 5 mph because of utility work that had gone on throughout the night along Interstate 10 near Palm Springs. That's when the bus, moving as fast as 65 mph, slammed into it, authorities said.

"There's no indication whatsoever that the driver applied the brakes," said California Highway Patrol Border Division Chief Jim Abele, citing the power of the impact and the fact that no skid marks were found.

Initial reports said four people were dead, but many bodies were later found in the front portion of the bus that ended up inside the trailer.

"They just kept pulling bodies stuck in between the seats," he said. "It's just due to this bus going so fast into the back of the truck. Why he did that, that's what we're trying to find out."

Car, 61, was sitting toward the back of the bus when it rammed the truck around 5:15 a.m. Sunday. She awoke to find herself standing amid bodies flung everywhere. Those who could move were pushing and shoving in the pre-dawn darkness to climb out from under each other.

She clambered to a broken window to yell for help, panicked she would be trapped if the bus caught fire. Motorists who stopped to help pulled her out the broken window.

Asia

Pakistani officials say 48 police trainees killed in attack

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Gunmen stormed a police training center late Monday in Pakistan's restive Baluchistan province and detonated explosive vests, killing at least 48 police trainees, authorities said.

Baluchistan's top health official, Noorul Haq, said at least 116 people were wounded—mostly police trainees and some paramilitary troops.

A security official put the death toll at 51. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media,

Major General Sher Afgan, chief of the paramilitary Frontier Corps, told reporters Tuesday that the attackers appeared to be in contact with handlers in Afghanistan. He said the attackers belonged to the banned Lashker-e-Jhangvi Al-Almi group, an Islamic militant group affiliated with al-Qaida.

Neither Lashker-a-Jhangvi nor any other group has claimed responsibility for the attack. But the Islamic State group and breakaway Taliban faction Jamaat-ul Ahrar have claimed responsibility for past attacks in Baluchistan. Lashker-e-Jhangvi has mainly targeted members of minority Shiite sect of Muslims.

The attack started when between four and six gunmen opened fire as they rushed the hostel at the police training center in a suburban area of the provincial capital of Quetta.

"They were rushing toward our building firing shots so we rushed for safety toward the roof and jumped down in the back to save our lives," one of the police trainees told Geo television.

Security was tight Tuesday morning around the training center and hospitals.

Haq, the top health official, said many of the trainees were killed when the gunmen detonated explosive vests. He said the death toll was expected to climb as many of the injured were in critical condition.

General Afgan said the attackers may have had inside help, although he did not give details. "This is an open war and when you have enemy inside and outside, they can easily exploit the situation," he said.

He said the security forces and police were clearing the area and searching for any possible hidden attackers.

Baluchistan has been the scene of a low-intensity insurgency by Baluch separatist groups for more than a decade. Islamic militants also have a presence in the province that borders Afghanistan.

The provincial home minister, Sarfaraz Bugti, said one attacker was killed by security forces and two died when they detonated their explosive vests.

He said that about 700 trainees were at the base when it was attacked.

Baluchistan police chief Ahsan Mahboob told reporters that four gunmen attacked the training center, attempting to enter the hostel housing the trainees. A gun battle erupted when the guards resisted, he said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Hong Kong court sees chilling video describing torture

HONG KONG (AP)—A jury in Hong Kong watched chilling video Tuesday of a British banker describing how he tortured and killed an Indonesian woman he met in a bar, saying he repeatedly raped her and "tortured her badly." In the video he shot, Rurik Jutting, a Cambridge University graduate on trial in Hong Kong's High Court for the murder of two Indonesian women, can be seen shirtless in his apartment. "My name is Rurik Jutting. About five minutes ago I just killed, murdered, this woman here," he says into the camera. He also pointed the camera down briefly to show the body of Sumarti Ningsih, 23, lying face down in a bathroom. Moments later he holds up his hand, which can be seen shaking.

Police search forests in India after 21 Maoist rebels killed

NEW DELHI (AP)—Security forces were hunting through forests in southeast India on Monday for Maoist rebels after a fierce gunfight left 21 rebels and a police commando dead and another policeman wounded. The gunfight broke out late Sunday after police received a tip that 60 Maoist rebels were gathered in forests on the border of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh states, said a police officer speaking on customary condition of anonymity. The gunfight lasted an hour before the rebels scattered into the dense forests. At daybreak Monday, police and paramilitary soldiers launched a search for them, he said. Police have recovered some arms and ammunition from the area. Police superintendent Rahul Dev Sharma said a policeman who was injured in the gunfight succumbed to his injuries Monday afternoon. Andhra Pradesh's top police officer, Nanduri Sambasiva Rao, said search operations were going on, with reports that some rebels were still in the area.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-002

REPAIR AND RENOVATION OF THE GUALO RAI YOUTH CENTER

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair and Renovation of the Gualo Rai Youth Center,** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 12, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 28, 2016 , 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 03, 2016** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-002".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 17, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 17, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 17, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **November 25, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, September 28, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on September 17, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Ninety (90) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-003

DRIVE WAY ROAD IMPROVEMENT GAOGAO KAGMAN, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the Drive Way Road Improvement Gaogao Kagman, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 12, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

Breach of Ethical Standard

- ***Gratuities.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. **NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 (a)**
- ***Kickbacks.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order. **NMIAC 70-30.3-725 (b)**
- ***Contingent fees.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. **NMIAC 70-30.3-730**

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 28, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 7, 2016** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-003"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 9, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 9, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 9, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **November 21, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, November 25, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on November 9, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**$25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred (US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

World

Iraqis on edge of Mosul face a deadly dilemma: Stay or flee

QAYARA, Iraq (AP)—Bayda Muhammad Khalaf followed the government's advice to stay in her home with her husband and seven children as Iraqi troops advanced near their remote village outside militant-held Mosul. But after the Islamic State fighters fled and Iraqi troops didn't appear, their tiny supply of food quickly ran out, and the family had to flee to search for territory firmly under government control.

When the Mosul offensive began a week ago, departing IS fighters warned villagers to stay off the roads and surrounding fields, which the militants had mined. So Khalaf waited until she saw a passing shepherd, and then she and her family made the eight-hour walk out of no man's land behind a herd of sheep.

"We were starving," she said. They had watched the start of the offensive on TV and thought Iraqi forces were on the way, but the troops' progress has been slow, and Mosul's southern approach is littered with dozens of villages, some with no more than 20 homes.

Eventually, Khalaf couldn't produce enough breast milk for her infant daughter. "I started giving her goat's milk, but then the goat died," she said.

AP

Iraq's elite counterterrorism forces advance toward Islamic State positions as fighting to retake the extremist-held city of Mosul enters its second week, in the village of Tob Zawa, outside Mosul, Monday, Oct. 24, 2016.

Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

Mosul, the largest city controlled by the Islamic State group, is still home to more than 1 million civilians. The government and international aid groups fear that a sudden mass exodus will overwhelm the few camps set up on its outskirts.

The massive offensive is expected to take weeks, if not months, and with supply routes cut off by the fighting, many civilians may not be able to stay in place for long. Driven by fear or hunger, many are already putting themselves in grave danger and are complicating the campaign to expel the militants from the city, which fell to IS in 2014.

More than 5,600 people have already fled areas near Mosul, according to the International Organization for Migration, with most heading through IS-run territory toward the Syrian border, rather than in the direction of the advancing troops, who are converging from the north, east and south.

Camps have been set up to accommodate 60,000 people, but about 200,000 are expected to be displaced in the first weeks of the offensive, according to the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Both the Iraqi government and Kurdish authorities are mired in an economic crisis brought on by low oil prices and say they do not have the resources to care for such a large number of displaced people. So they have urged everyone to stay put.

"We have a comprehensive plan for the evacuation of the civilians," said Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Maliki, the head of the Iraqi army's 9th Division. "The plan is to keep them in their houses until it becomes safer."

That means huddling indoors, often with no electricity or running water, as explosions and gunfire echo outside. Those living near the front lines are often out of reach of aid groups.

Those who somehow manage to cross the battle lines, like Khalaf's family, face other challenges.

The Kurds have taken in hundreds of thousands of people, but Sunni Arabs, who make up most of Mosul's population, are viewed with suspicion. When IS militants attacked the Kurdish-controlled city of Kirkuk last week, a senior Kurdish commander immediately speculated the attackers had infiltrated the city disguised as fleeing civilians.

"Many of (the displaced civilians), I'm sure they are working with ISIS," said Kemal Kerkuki, a commander with the Kurdish forces, known as peshmerga. He said his forces arrested one recently who confessed to being part of a sleeper cell.

France moving more than 6,000 migrants from makeshift camp

CALAIS, France (AP)—France began the mass evacuation Monday of the makeshift migrant camp known as "the jungle," a mammoth project to erase the humanitarian blight on its northern border, where thousands fleeing war or poverty have lived in squalor, most hoping to sneak into Britain.

Before dawn broke, long lines of migrants waited in chilly temperatures to board buses in the port city of Calais, carrying meager belongings and timid hope that they were headed to a brighter future, despite giving up their dreams of life across the English Channel in Britain.

Closely watched by more than 1,200 police, the first of dozens of buses began transferring them to reception centers around France where they can apply for asylum. More police patrolled inside the camp, among them officers from the London police force.

Authorities were expected to begin tearing down thousands of muddy tents and fragile shelters on Tuesday as the migrants vacated them.

Migrants have flocked to the Calais region for nearly two decades, living in mini-jungles. But the sprawling camp in the sand dunes of northern France became emblematic of Europe's migrant crisis, expanding as migrant numbers grew and quickly evolving into Europe's largest slum, supported by aid groups, and a black eye on France's image.

"It's not good, the jungle," said 31-year-old Mahmoud Abdrahman of Sudan. "Eating not good. Water not good, shelter not good, no good toilets." He said he would leave Tuesday when lines were shorter, gesturing to a black knapsack that was all packed to go as proof he was ready.

Ultimately, Abdrahman said, he wanted one thing more than anything else.

"I need peace," he said. "Anywhere."

Home to migrants from Afghanistan, Sudan, Eritrea, Syria and elsewhere, the closing of the camp fell like a stone on many as the reality of the evacuation sunk in and plans had to be made. Uncertainty and a lack of precise information left many fearful.

"What should I do?" asked a 14-year-old newly arrived Afghan.

"It is really hard because we have found some good friends over here," said Tariq Shinwari, a 26-year-old Afghan.

The camp shutdown left some, like Imran Khan, an Afghan who was fingerprinted in another country before coming to France, with a tough choice—get on a bus and risk expulsion or go on the run as winter approaches. Under European rules, asylum seekers must be returned to the country where they were fingerprinted on arrival.

"I will decide tomorrow what to do," the 35-year-old said.

Group: Russia, Saudi don't belong on UN human rights council

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The candidacies of Saudi Arabia and Russia for the U.N.'s top human rights body are compromised by their actions in Yemen and Syria respectively, where they have been accused of unlawful attacks on civilians, a prominent rights group said Tuesday.

Human Rights Watch said the two countries' membership bids risked undermining the credibility of the U.N. Human Rights Council and its ability to hold rights abusers accountable.

"The U.N. Human Rights Council's ability to successfully expose and hold violators to account is under threat because a number of countries use it to thwart attempts to expose their own crimes and abuses," said Louis Charbonneau, U.N. director at Human Rights Watch.

Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International had earlier called for suspending Saudi Arabia from the Human Rights Council over illegal attacks on civilians in Yemen where more than 11,000 civilians have been killed or wounded since March 2015.

In Syria, Russia has been accused of carrying out airstrikes that have indiscriminately killed and wounded countless civilians.

The group also flagged the candidacies of China and Egypt for their poor human rights records.

The General Assembly will hold elections for the 47-nation council on Oct. 28.

Ex-Uruguay President Batlle, 88

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP)—Former President Jorge Batlle, an extroverted and irreverent politician who was a force in Uruguayan politics for half a century and led it during one of its worst economic recessions, died on Monday. He was 88.

Batlle underwent surgery to stop a cerebral hemorrhage after he fainted and struck his head earlier this month during an event for his Colorado Party. But the former president never fully recovered and the Sanatorio Americano hospital where he was interned announced his death late Monday.

Batlle, who was known as outgoing, even politically incorrect at times, remained active in politics until the end, needling his successors through newspaper columns and social media after leaving office.

He practiced law, worked as journalist and was a senator and a member of the lower house of Congress before serving as president from 2000-2005.

He had promised that his presidency would be "fun," but it was overshadowed by an economic depression that brought Uruguay, long one of Latin America's most stable economies, close to bankruptcy.

The slump left one of every three Uruguayans below the poverty line—a blow to a country where generous social benefits had for years assured one of the region's highest living standards.

As president, Batlle also pursued closer ties with the United States at a time when leftists were taking power in Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela and distancing themselves from Washington.

Born on October 25, 1927, Batlle came from a political family. His father, Luis Batlle Berres, was president of Uruguay between 1947-1951 and 1954-1958. He was related to 19th century Presidents Jose Batlle y Ordonez and Lorenzo Batlle.

But his road to the presidency was challenging. After an unsuccessful first run in 1966, his image was dented by a financial scandal in 1968, when he was accused of using privileged information on an imminent devaluation. The claim was never proven.

In 1971, he lost another presidential election. During the 1973-1985 military dictatorship, he was detained on several occasions, as were dozens of other political leaders. After the return of democracy, he was elected senator for the Colorado Party.

After another unsuccessful run in 1994, Batlle finally won election in 1999 and took office in 2000.

Focus

AP

In this Aug. 16, 2012, file photo, a Congolese miner sifts through ground rocks to separate out the cassiterite, the main ore that's processed into tin, in the town of Nyabibwe, eastern Congo, a once bustling outpost fueled by artisanal cassiterite mining.

Report:

Gunmen still control metals mined for modern gadgets

By BRANDON BAILEY
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Violent gunmen still menace pick-and-shovel miners in eastern Congo, a new report finds, despite years of efforts to loosen their grip by local reformers, Western activists and companies like Apple and Intel that use minerals from the African region in their products.

Conditions are improving for miners who dig the ore that's processed into tin, tungsten and tantalum for smartphones and other electronics, though some still face interference from armed groups. But slumping demand and depressed prices for those minerals have driven many workers to dig instead for gold that's used in electronics, jewelry and other consumer products sold by Western companies.

Armed groups hold sway over mining sites where nearly two-thirds of Congo's gold miners ply their trade. There, under threat of violence, workers are often forced to pay illegal "taxes" that support corrupt army units, rebel groups or unauthorized militias. Sometimes they're conscripted into forced labor.

Those are the findings of an extensive field survey by the International Peace Information Service, a Belgian nonprofit whose research is frequently cited by activist groups and policy advisers to European and Western officials. IPIS is releasing its findings today.

The detailed report bolsters the recent observations of activists. "Things are slowly but surely changing," said Holly Dranginis, a senior policy analyst at the Enough Project, a U.S.-based advocacy group. "But armed groups still benefit from gold, and they are wreaking havoc on communities that are near the mines."

REIGN OF VIOLENCE

IPIS has sent researchers, teamed with industry and government officials, to inspect more than 1,600 mining sites in Congo over the last four years. Nearly 240,000 people, mostly men but many supporting families, work as so-called artisanal (i.e., independent) miners at those sites.

For decades, an assortment of armed rebels, homegrown gangs and corrupt army units have reigned over parts of eastern Congo, where many people live in poverty despite the rich mineral resources underground. These armed groups are known for terrorizing local residents through pillaging, forced labor and sexual assaults on women and girls.

In recent years, Western activists have pressured corporations to stop using conflict minerals from areas controlled by armed groups, which profit from sales of those metals.

The metals are used in a variety of products. But activists have particularly focused on makers of smartphones, computers and other electronic components, since they use large quantities of tantalum in electrical capacitors and tin as solder for circuit boards, along with smaller amounts of tungsten and gold in various components.

MORE DISCLOSURE

Human rights groups also persuaded the U.S. Congress to address the issue in the 2010 financial reform bill known as the Dodd-Frank Act. One section of the law requires corporations to file annual reports showing what they've done to determine if they're using tin, tungsten, tantalum or gold from Congo or neighboring countries.

Though it's been three years since the reporting requirement took effect, most companies say they're unable to trace all the minerals they use, since metals usually travel through complex supply chains that include mines, regional wholesalers, refiners and independent component-makers.

Companies in some sectors, particularly computer and electronics manufacturers, are providing more information each year, according to researcher Chris Bayer, who reviewed company filings for the nonprofit Development International. But he said nearly two-thirds of the 981 companies from all industries that filed conflict mineral reports this year still didn't identify the country of origin for all the minerals they used that are covered by the law.

Still, activists and academics say the Dodd-Frank requirements have prompted companies to examine supply chains and underwrite audits by industry groups that pressure suppliers to stop buying from illegitimate sources. The audits and a tracking system devised by industry and Congo's government are intended to certify that ore comes from mines free of armed interference.

SILICON VALLEY RIPPLES

Silicon Valley's Intel is one of very few companies to claim conflict-free status for its microprocessors and chipsets, citing audits of smelters in its supply chain. But Intel says it can't be sure about other products it sells that contain components made elsewhere.

Apple, which also requires its smelters to undergo audits, says it has no indication that any of its products contain minerals that benefit armed groups. But while Apple reports more information than most companies, it stops short of declaring its products "conflict-free" and says those audits may not be enough. Apple also does its own investigations, focusing particularly on gold because it's susceptible to smuggling and weak oversight.

Activists don't want U.S. companies to simply stop using minerals from Congo, because that would hurt miners and their families. But some wholesalers have turned to sources elsewhere. And while the number of artisanal miners working in Congo has remained stable, IPIS estimates about 80 percent, or 193,000 workers, are now digging for gold. They produce about 12 tons of gold each year, worth about $437 million when sold at local trading sites.

IPIS found 64 percent of gold miners working at sites controlled by armed groups - only a slight decline from 67 percent in 2010.

CONGOLESE ARMY 'TAXES'

More often than not, the gun-toting groups are units of the Congolese army, known as the FARDC. But the soldiers aren't just there to keep the peace. IPIS found evidence that army units interfered with mining operations, usually by collecting unauthorized taxes, at two-thirds of the sites where they were present.

Other sites were under the control of armed militias, including a rebel group notorious for "looting, extortion, killing and sexual violence" in Congo's Ituri district, IPIS reported.

IPIS researcher Ken Matthysen, who co-authored the new report, estimates the vast majority of Congolese gold is exported outside legal channels. He said it's smuggled into neighboring countries to disguise the true source, and then often exported to the United Arab Emirates.

Industry officials say gold is extremely difficult to trace through layers of wholesalers, refiners and other middlemen. They also blame ongoing civil unrest in the DRC.

"But that shouldn't stop us," said David Bouffard, vice president at Signet Jewelers, a leading retailer that says it works with auditors and industry groups to make sure it doesn't use metal from conflict sources. "We have to help as much as we can."

SOME IMPROVEMENTS

Meanwhile, about half the miners digging for tin, tungsten or tantalum ore in the Congo are working at sites covered by an industry inspection system. IPIS found 21 percent of 3T miners at sites under the control of armed groups. That's a big improvement from 57 percent in 2010.

But experts say the "tag and trace" system used for tracking 3T ore isn't perfect. U.N. advisers reported last year that 3T minerals were still being smuggled from Eastern Congo into Rwanda. They also found a black market for altered or counterfeit tags. A separate report by the Enough Project, a human rights group, found Congolese inspectors are poorly paid and susceptible to bribes.

Tantalum mines in eastern Congo are still vulnerable to violence, according to the Enough Project. Its report cited an incident in January 2016 when a group of Congolese soldiers fired on civilian miners in the town of Rubaya, injuring nine people.

Life & Style

Obama reads mean tweets as part of Jimmy Kimmel show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—President Barack Obama entertained Jimmy Kimmel's audience with some of the mean tweets sent his way, beginning with one sent by Donald Trump in August when he said "President Obama will go down as perhaps the worst president in the history of the United States."

Obama's reply: "Really? Well, @realDonaldTrump, at least I will go down as a president."

The president appeared on ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live" during the middle of his three-day visit to Nevada and California, where he is campaigning and raising money for presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and other Democratic candidates. The segment contained a mix of humor and serious talk about the current election.

Kimmel routinely has celebrities read some of the mean tweets sent their way. Another person asked: "Barack Obama, bro do you even lift?"

"Well, I lifted the ban on Cuban cigars. That's worth something," Obama replied.

Obama, a big sports fan, was asked if he was happy that the Chicago Cubs were going to the World Series. Obama appeared to have some trouble getting "yes" out.

"To see just how happy everybody was, I actually felt pretty good. I am rooting for hometown team even though it is not my team."

Comedian Bill Murray is a big Cubs fan, and Obama told of his recent visit to the White House. He said they had a putting contest in the Oval Office and Murray won $5 from him.

"He won repeatedly," Obama said. "The glass was rigged."

Despite the high pressures of the presidency, Obama admitted it's rare for aides to wake him up in the middle of the night. The most serious problems are usually anticipated. He used the question to take another dig at Trump, saying "What I don't do at 3 a.m., I don't tweet about people who insulted me."

Kimmel then asked Obama if he ever laughed during the debates when watching the GOP nominee. "Most of the time," Obama said.

Kimmel also asked why people don't trust Clinton. Obama chalked it up to being in the trenches for 30 years. He said when people are in the public eye that long, people try to find weak spots and "a whole narrative begins to build." He described Clinton's brand of politics as "pragmatic."

Kimmel said he knew Obama had to leave, but he asked if the first lady could stay for another four years. Obama said his wife was never wild about politics. "All the women in my life are looking forward to being able to lead a more normal life."

Hooch, an abused French mastiff, is Hero Dog of the Year

NEW YORK (AP)—The human nearly lost his life to drug and alcohol addiction. The dog, well, he nearly lost his life to humans.

A French mastiff named Hooch, rescued by Zach Skow in Tehachapi, California, is the 2016 American Humane organization's Hero Dog of the Year, bestowed in a Beverly Hills ceremony taped in September for broadcast at 8 p.m. EDT Friday on the Hallmark Channel.

Hooch, among eight canine finalists, wore his best tuxedo collar, though he was reluctant to join Skow on stage.

Hosted by James Denton and Beth Stern, and featuring Dave Foley, Kym Johnson, Robert Herjavec, Marilu Henner and Greg Louganis, among other celebrities, this is the sixth year for the awards.

The finalists come in all shapes and sizes—and all were honored for the work they do. Some protect the vulnerable and comfort the sick. Others assist police, military veterans and rescue the lost.

Hooch, on the other hand, was nominated for surviving—and he was No. 1.

He was the "emerging hero dog," having been rescued about three years ago with the help of Skow, founder and operator of Marley's Mutts Dog Rescue in Tehachapi. Skow said the rescue goes the other way around as well.

Skow, from age 16 to 28, when he nearly died of liver failure, is a recovering addict, about eight years sober. As part of his rehabilitation, he went into dog rescue.

"Hooch has helped me stay in the moment—not only in the moment, but out of my head," Skow explained in a recent interview. "I need to be thinking about something other than me."

He calls the dogs he rescues his "hope." As for Hooch, he received a call one day from a local animal control officer about an ailing French mastiff who was emaciated, had a broken tail and had recently had his ears badly cropped. The dog refused to eat, instead batting his bowls around wildly.

In this Sept. 10, 2016 photo released by Crown Media, Zach Skow poses with his French Mastiff named Hooch on the red carpet at the 2016 American Humane Association's Hero Dog of the Year in Beverly Hills, Calif. AP

Skow thought something was wrong with Hooch's jaw. When the dog was checked by a veterinarian, they discovered that his tongue had been maliciously cut off at the base, possibly to stop excessive barking or use him as "bait" to train fighting dogs.

The copper-colored Hooch can't chew and drools profusely. Skow had to figure out how to feed him. Hooch pulled out a feeding tube. Skow then found that softening dry food with hot water and putting it straight down Hooch's mouth worked, and the dog slowly regained his health.

Now, Hooch spends some of his time with non-verbal autistic kids, calming them as they learn social skills. Remarkably, Hooch trusts people, though loud noises like the cheering he received on the night of his big win tend to shut him down.

"He has every reason to mistrust every person he comes across and that has never crossed his mind," Skow said. "He exudes happiness."

The first spoken word for some of the autistic kids the two meet is "Hooch," added Skow, who is now 37.

Hooch does other work as well, as a companion to women in shelters who have been victims of domestic abuse, for instance.

"Everyone called for us to euthanize him," Skow said. "No one could fathom that he would have a good quality of life. He's a testament to all of those dogs that don't have a chance, that don't have hope. That's exactly what I was."

The other seven finalists for Hero Dog, all honored for their service, are:

■ **Law enforcement:** Edo, a K-9 superstar with the Los Angeles Police Department, and handler Nhut Huynh. Edo, a Belgian malinois, was the first sent into a house where a shootout was underway. He pulled the armed man away from his weapon.

■ **Search and rescue:** Kobuk, a German shepherd, and handler Elizabeth Fossett in York, Maine. He sniffed out an elderly woman with diabetes and dementia after she wandered off from a cabin in the wilderness.

■ **Service:** Gander, a labradoodle rescue, and handler Lon Hodge. Hodge is an Army veteran in Great Lakes, Illinois, who suffers from post traumatic stress disorder and was once homebound for months at a time. The two are inseparable and travel the country helping others with disabilities. "Thank you for saving my life," Hodge told his beloved Gander on the show.

■ **Military:** Layka, another Belgian malinois, and trainer/veteran Julian McDonald in Galena, Kansas. The dog lost a leg when she took fire while McDonald's Ranger unit was assaulting an enemy compound in Afghanistan. McDonald and his family adopted Layka.

■ **Arson:** Judge and handler Lee Laubach Jr., fire chief in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Judge is a yellow Labrador who has worked more than 275 fire scenes and has found evidence leading to multiple arrests and civil penalties for insurance fraud.

■ **Hearing:** Hook, a 12-pound, 10-year-old Chihuahua mix, and handler Joyce Herman. Herman, from Sacramento, California, is a hearing-impaired marriage and family therapist. He pulled Herman off some light train tracks as a train approached and once chased away a prowler in her office waiting room.

■ **Therapy:** Mango, a paralyzed Cairn terrier rescue, and handler Judy Walter, a veteran in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Both dog and human had broken their backs. Mango uses a canine wheelchair to get around. "I healed her and she healed me," said Walter, who now routinely visits disabled vets with Mango.

Oxford says Shakespeare will share credit for Henry VI

LONDON (AP)—The Bard was not a solo act.

Oxford University Press' new edition of William Shakespeare's works will credit Christopher Marlowe as co-author of the three Henry VI plays, underscoring that the playwright collaborated with others on some of his most famous works.

Marlowe, a playwright, poet and spy, will share billing in the latest version of the New Oxford Shakespeare being published this week. While scholars have long suspected that Shakespeare's plays included the work of others, new analytical methods helped researchers conclude that sections bore the hallmarks of Marlowe's hand.

"Shakespeare, like other geniuses, recognized the value of other people," Gary Taylor, a professor at Florida State University and the principal investigator of the new work, said Monday. "What is Shakespeare famous for? Writing dialogue—interactions between two people. You would expect in his life there would be dialogue with other people."

A team of 23 international scholars looked afresh at the man many consider the greatest writer in the English language. The challenge, put simply: If one is going to compile the complete works of Shakespeare one first has to determine what they are.

Five of the world's most senior Shakespeare scholars —Taylor, Hugh Craig at the University of Newcastle in Australia, MacDonald P. Jackson at the University of Auckland in New Zealand; Gabriel Egan at De Montfort University, Leicester and John Jowett of the Shakespeare Institute at the University of Birmingham—had to be convinced of the issues of authorship in the works.

The editors concluded that 17 of 44 works associated with Shakespeare had input from others. The scholars used computerized data sets to reveal patterns, trends and associations—analyzing not only Shakespeare's words, but also those of his contemporaries.

In Shakespeare's time, there was an insatiable demand for new material to feed the appetite of the first mass entertainment industry. A relatively small group of people—a cabal of sorts who knew one another—worked feverishly to meet this demand. Taylor compared them to screenwriters in the early days of Hollywood.

To study them, the team of scholars used what Taylor described as the analytic equivalent of combining voice recognition, fingerprints and DNA testing—looking for patterns to see how various authors and playwrights wrote and worked.

"Shakespeare has now entered the world of big data," Taylor said, adding that while the bard's work has been studied intensively, that's not always the case in the same measure for other writers of his generation.

Jury acquits man of stalking TV star Kendall Jenner

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A jury on Monday acquitted a man of stalking model and reality TV star Kendall Jenner and convicted him of trespassing at her secluded Hollywood Hill home

The jury of seven women and five men returned the verdict against Shavaughn McKenzie after a seven-day trial in which Jenner described her fear at finding McKenzie lurking in her driveway and banging on her car window in August.

A defense attorney had urged jurors to reject the stalking charge, saying there was no evidence showing McKenzie intended to cause Jenner fear.

McKenzie is scheduled to be sentenced Nov. 10 on the misdemeanor trespassing charge. He could face up to six months in jail but will likely be released because of credits for good behavior.

His attorney Taylor Shramo said he hopes to secure mental health treatment for McKenzie, a Florida native who traveled from Georgia to Los Angeles last year and started hanging around outside Jenner's former home.

The verdict marks the second time this year that a Los Angeles jury has rejected a stalking case involving a celebrity. In February, a jury acquitted an Ohio man of stalking Gwyneth Paltrow after determining he did not intend to cause her fear by repeatedly sending letters to her.

In the Jenner case, Deputy City Attorney Alex Perez said in court that McKenzie, 25, had tracked Jenner's whereabouts for 15 months before his arrest. He noted that McKenzie has never said how he learned that Jenner had moved to the hilltop home tucked away from the street and accessible only after driving through a 13-foot gate.

Perez said he was disappointed by the verdict and hoped McKenzie would receive treatment.

Perez said McKenzie followed Jenner's car onto the property and only left after she backed out of the driveway and three of her friends arrived to detain McKenzie until police arrived.

AP

In this Feb. 9, 2016 file photo, model Kendall Jenner attends the world premiere of "Zoolander 2" in New York.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Screaming fans prompt Justin Bieber to walk off stage

MANCHESTER, England (AP)—It seems even Justin Bieber finds his screaming fans irritating. The pop star walked off the stage during his show in Manchester, England, on Sunday after some fans ignored his request to stop screaming as he was trying to talk to the crowd between songs. Bieber told the crowd that he wanted to be able to say something and the screaming had to stop. When the screaming continued, a frustrated Bieber dropped the microphone as he left the stage. The singer returned several moments later and told the crowd he'd stop talking and just do his musical set, because, he said, "Manchester just can't handle it."

Alan Alda asks scientists to explain energy to children

STONY BROOK, N.Y. (AP)—Alan Alda wants scientists to answer a question for 11-year-old children: What is energy? The actor is a visiting professor at the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University on eastern Long Island. He has been posing similar vexing questions to scientists since 2011. He says it's important for scientists to be able to communicate complex concepts in simple terms. He previously has sought simple definitions of time, color and sound. His first question sought a definition of a flame? His annual contest continues to be called the "Flame Challenge." The judges are 11-year-olds around the world who access the contest online. Winning scientists receive $1,000.

Photographer sues Minneapolis studio over Prince photos

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—A man who photographed Prince during the late music superstar's early years is suing a Minneapolis studio to recover about 3,000 original pictures. Allen Beaulieu's federal lawsuit is against Studio 1124 and its owner, Clint Stockwell. The lawsuit says Beaulieu photographed Prince as early as 1978. Some of his work was used on album covers and liner artwork for "Dirty Mind," ''Controversy" and "1999." Beaulieu says he also shot behind-the-scenes photos while traveling with Prince. Beaulieu says he owns the copyrights and only gave Stockwell pictures to scan to help produce a photo book. Beaulieu says Stockwell is refusing to return the photos and copies. Prince died April 21 of a drug overdose.

Former Red Sox pitcher joining conservative Breitbart news

NEW YORK (AP)—Former Major League pitcher Curt Schilling is joining the Breitbart News Network as host of the conservative organization's first online radio show. The former Boston Red Sox World Series hero, who has said he's considering a challenge to Democratic U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, will start his two-hour call-in show on Tuesday at 9 a.m. ET. Schilling called Breitbart "the last bastion of actual journalism." In April, Schilling was fired as an analyst by ESPN for his Facebook comments about transgender people. Schilling starred for the Philadelphia Phillies, Arizona Diamondbacks and Red Sox. He played on three World Series winners and retired in 2009.

Ship that helped saved 7 in 'The Perfect Storm' to be sunk

CAPE MAY POINT, N.J. (AP)—A ship that towed warships to safety during World War II and battled 40-foot waves to help rescue seven people in what was portrayed in the book and film "The Perfect Storm" is poised to be sunk off the New Jersey and Delaware coasts.

Officials told The Record newspaper the 205-foot Coast Guard vessel Tamaroa will help grow a reef near Cape May Point by drawing large game fish and boosting recreational fishing.

"It's always sad when you sink a ship, but some good will come of it," said retired Coast Guard Capt. Larry Brudnicki, who commanded the ship during the fateful 1991 storm. "It's being repurposed. It's being used. If it's cut up, who's going to know that their razor blade came from the Tamaroa?"

The sinking is planned around Oct. 30, the 25th anniversary of the storm in which the Tamaroa helped rescue the crew of a sailboat and a downed Air National Guard helicopter in waters off Massachusetts.

Long before its role in "The Perfect Storm," the Tamaroa was known as the USS Zuni, which was first deployed by the Navy in World War II. Following the war, the Zuni was transferred to the Coast Guard and renamed the Tamaroa. The vessel spent nearly five decades rescuing ships in distress, intercepting smugglers at sea and enforcing fishery laws.

Efforts to convert the ship into a museum and memorial ended in 2012 after its hull was found to be leaking.

"I'd rather see her be a permanent undersea memorial than be scrapped," said Bill Doherty, a New York man who served on the Tamaroa in the late 1960s. "She has too much history for that."

To those who oppose the sinking of the ship for sentimental reasons, Harry Jaeger, co-founder of Zuni/Tamaroa Maritime Foundation, said you can put on your scuba gear and it'll be right there.

Girlfriend still in closet is taking her time to come out

DEAR ABBY: I'm a lesbian currently dating a woman who is still in the closet. She now identifies as bisexual. We have been dating for about a year.

The issue is that she is still in contact with a lot of her ex-boyfriends. I don't expect her to come out of the closet on my time. However, I do have a problem with her talking to ex-boyfriends when they don't know she's in a relationship. She thinks I'm overreacting. However, she has admitted that she'd have a problem with me talking to exes and not bringing up the fact I'm in a relationship.

She has finally admitted that I am a friend and introduced me to her family and one other friend. It took a lot of work to get that far. I am demanding that she acknowledge -- at the very least -- that she is in a relationship. I'm not demanding she tell them it's with a girl. I don't want to date someone who is ashamed of me.

Most of the time when she talks to an ex, new romantic interests don't seem to come up. I would prefer that she tell them right away, although she argues it isn't the right time to randomly bring it up in a conversation. I no longer trust her to care more about my feelings than her interests. Should I say goodbye to this one?

DATING IN SILENCE

DEAR DATING IN SILENCE: Yes. If, after a year of dating, your girlfriend is still hiding your relationship, I think that's exactly what you should do. LGBT people come out in their own way, in their own time. If this difference in where the two of you are is a deal-breaker, you should move on and find someone more compatible.

DEAR ABBY: For the last seven years I have been in a long-distance relationship. I see him every three months. He is divorced and a workaholic. I love him very much, and he says he also loves me.

I had put a tattoo of his name on my hip. This time when he visited, I showed it to him. When I did, he was shocked. He said he was flattered, but thought it was "a bit much." Then he said he would never tattoo someone's name on himself unless he first asked permission.

I told him that I really love him, and even if something happened and we broke up for some reason that it was all right. I said I am 60 years old, and it was my body and my decision, and that I did it for myself because I will never love another man the way I love him.

Abby, do you think I should have asked him first? Do you think maybe he doesn't love me as much as he says he does? Please help me understand this.

TATTOO IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR TATTOO: You are an adult, and at age 60 you should not have to ask ANYone's permission to get a tattoo. If, after seven years, you see this man only every three months, it should be plain by now that he's not interested in a closer relationship.

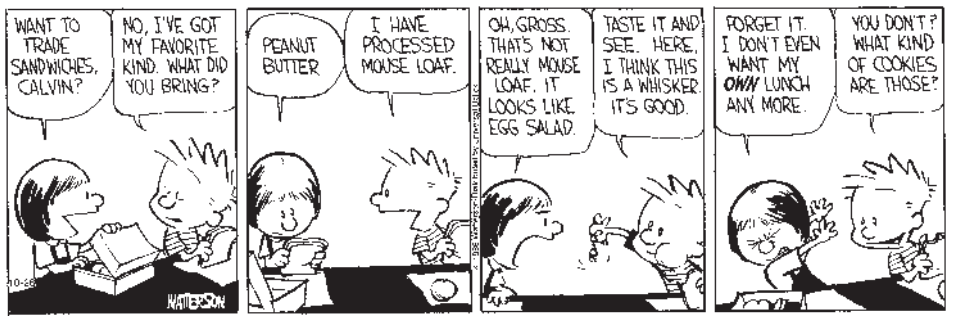
Most men would be flattered that you got the tattoo, unless they were afraid it might somehow reveal that you are lovers. Are you absolutely sure this man is divorced? Your situation is so peculiar that it's time you did some double-checking. Better late than never.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

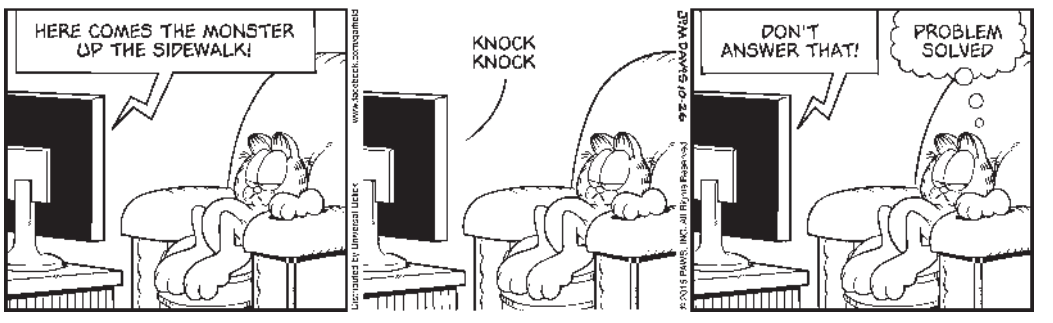
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WANT TO TRADE SANDWICHES, CALVIN?
NO, I'VE GOT MY FAVORITE KIND. WHAT DID YOU BRING?
PEANUT BUTTER
I HAVE PROCESSED MOUSE LOAF.
OH, GROSS. THAT'S NOT REALLY MOUSE LOAF. IT LOOKS LIKE EGG SALAD.
TASTE IT AND SEE. HERE, I THINK THIS IS A WHISKER. IT'S GOOD.
FORGET IT. I DON'T EVEN WANT MY OWN LUNCH ANY MORE.
YOU DON'T? WHAT KIND OF COOKIES ARE THOSE?
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



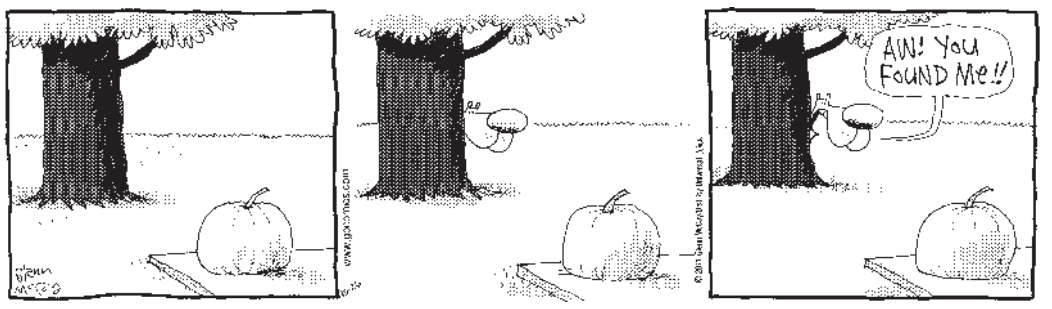
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

CLAYTON, YOU NEED TO STOP SCARING US.
I KNOW! IT'S FUNNY, BUT SOMEONE COULD GET SERIOUSLY...
BOOGA BOOGA BOOGA
NYAAAA!!
BOING
SORRY. THAT WAS ON A TIMER.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Smile broadly
5 To and —
8 Sportscaster Collinsworth
12 "Three Sisters" sister
13 Badly lit
14 Miami team, with "The"
15 Witch's pot
17 Jittery
18 Sandy's owner
19 Fridge forerunner
21 Atkins diet no-no
24 Manmouse link
25 Patella site
28 Long lunch?
30 Like sashimi
33 Snaky fish
34 Danger
35 Praise in verse
36 Copper head?
37 50-and-over org.
38 Uppity sort
39 Officer
41 Bigfoot's cousin
43 Genuine
46 Love, Italian-style
50 The Red Planet
51 "Jumbo shrimp," for one
54 "— Rhythm"
55 Chopper
56 Times Sq. force
57 Lairs
58 In shape
59 Former mates

DOWN
1 — Raton
2 Flair
3 "Son of —!"
4 Ill will
5 New Deal pres.
6 Carnival city
7 Hotel chain
8 Root (for)
9 Snoopy's foe
10 "Othello" villain
11 Charon's river
16 Narc's org.
20 Hip
22 Actress Perlman
23 Bramble fruit
25 Mauna —
26 Kan. neighbor
27 Charged particle
29 Ready for harvest
31 Commotion
32 Spider's creation
34 Dad
38 Olympic gymnast Biles
40 Expels
42 Highland hat
43 During
44 Batting practice area
45 Rye buy
47 African antelope
48 Lariat
49 Termini
52 Cato's 21
53 Even so

Solution time: 23 mins.

Y	A	L	E		M	C	P		B	A	A	L
F	D	A	M		A	V	A		I	L	S	A
P	A	T	E	R	N	A	L		L	A	P	S
			P	E	X		E	G	O	I	S	T
C	O	N	G	A		S	T	A	X			
A	L	E	E		P	A	T	R	I	C	I	A
R	I	S		I	A	U	F	A		O	N	S
P	A	T	I	E	N	T	S		Z	I	T	I
			C	A	P	E		M	I	N	O	S
S	A	F	A	R	I		S	O	N			
O	M	A	R		P	A	T	E	N	T	L	Y
M	E	N	L		E	M	U		I	S	E	E
E	R	G	S		S	I	D		A	K	I	N

Yesterday's answer 10-26

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13				14			
15				16				■	17			
18					■	■	19	20				
■	■	■	21		22	23	■	24			■	■
25	26	27		■	28		29		■	30	31	32
33			■	34					■	35		
36			■	37				■	38			
■	■	39	40		■	41		42		■	■	■
43	44				45	■	■	46		47	48	49
50				■	51	52	53					
54					55			■	56			
57				■	58				59			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Seth MacFarlane, 43; Keith Urban, 49; Cary Elwes, 54; Dylan McDermott, 55.

Happy Birthday: Use your imagination and think outside the box this year, and you will master what you set out to do. Creativity and finding ways to appeal to a bigger audience will help you develop your talents and make new connections. Sharing resources with others will lead to equality and good relationships. Your numbers are 3, 12, 20, 27, 33, 39, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Consider an investment opportunity, but if someone is pressuring you or trying to get you involved in a joint venture, back away. You'll do better if you invest in yourself instead. An opportunity at work looks promising. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take an aggressive role in going after what you want. You'll be given more information if you ask direct questions. Don't be afraid to be bold and to leverage the information you have in order to find out more. Travel and communication is featured. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Live up to your promises or someone will complain. Use patience when dealing with your family members. Look for unique ways to keep everyone around you busy, and channel the energy you have left into personal pampering. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Keep your life simple and stick to the budget you have set as a guideline. Put more emphasis on learning, meeting new people and engaging in pastimes that will broaden your outlook. A mental journey will lead to positive answers. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Your generosity will lead to problems. Someone will take advantage of you by asking for favors that will require far more on your part than you first realize. Proceed with caution. Don't feel guilty saying "no." Offer suggestions; nothing more. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): A personal situation will not be clear due to a lack of information. Your gut will say one thing, but you'll be told something quite different. Go to the gym or get involved in something that will ease your stress. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take a deep breath before engaging in a debate or making a domestic change. You'll do best if you sign up for something you enjoy doing or make physical changes that will boost your ego. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't hesitate. You can turn any negative you face into a positive. Put your heart and soul into what you enjoy doing most, and something great will unfold. Collaborate with someone you consider an expert. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): It's best to put everything you have into your job. Someone will make you look bad by using personal information to tarnish your name. Your best response is honesty, sincerity and taking care of your responsibilities. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Look for ways to make your money work for you. You will negotiate effectively when dealing with settlements, contracts or other legal matters. Don't jeopardize your health by taking on too much. Let your knowledge and insights guide you. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Ulterior motives must not be allowed to take over. As long as you are honest about the way you feel and what you want to do, you should have no regrets. Altering the way you live and work looks promising. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Participate in functions that will encourage you to make new friends and allies. Share your ideas and offer unique solutions, and you will attract interest from others. A proposal that will allow you to use your skills looks promising. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unique, imaginative and intense. You are charismatic and popular.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		2		5		6		
	3		7		9		5	
	8						4	
		3	2	6	8	7		
			9		3			
			5		1			
	5	1				9	2	
9								5
	4	6	3	9	5	1	8	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	8	3	6	5	9	2	1	7
2	7	1	3	8	4	9	5	6
5	6	9	2	7	1	4	8	3
1	9	6	5	2	8	3	7	4
3	4	5	7	9	6	1	2	8
8	2	7	1	4	3	6	9	5
9	5	8	4	3	2	7	6	1
7	1	4	9	6	5	8	3	2
6	3	2	8	1	7	5	4	9

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

THE WEXFORD FESTIVAL OPERA Solution: 10 letters

P	H	B	T	R	A	G	E	D	Y	E	L	R	D	T
E	M	O	A	R	C	U	L	A	W	U	S	I	E	S
R	U	A	N	C	A	E	V	A	I	R	R	N	R	S
F	E	G	R	A	K	D	L	G	U	E	E	E	Y	T
O	E	B	O	T	R	S	I	O	C	S	G	R	T	S
R	C	R	M	L	H	P	T	T	S	N	E	A	U	I
M	O	T	R	E	O	A	O	A	I	L	R	C	A	T
A	N	I	O	A	V	R	M	S	G	O	C	O	E	R
N	T	C	Y	B	R	O	P	A	N	E	N	U	B	A
C	R	K	R	D	E	I	N	E	S	I	E	S	R	D
E	A	E	O	S	R	R	T	S	T	K	N	T	I	R
U	L	T	T	I	S	A	I	N	C	C	I	I	A	I
N	T	S	Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓡ	Ⓐ	M	H	A	I	A	C	N	A
E	O	H	S	S	A	R	B	A	U	D	L	S	M	N
V	O	I	C	E	I	L	L	I	M	S	E	L	U	J

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 10/26

Acoustics, Acts, Adrian, Agler, Artists, Arts, Backstage, Bass, Beauty, Brass, Brian, Contralto, Dickie, Director, Drama, Elaine, Eva, Ferrari, Hire, Irish, Jules, Luigi, Martha, Massenet, November, October, Performance, Prologue, Singers, Smillie, Soprano, Story, Success, Tenor, Tickets, Tours, Tradition, Tragedy, Venue, Voice, Walsh

Yesterday's Answer: Birthdays

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Welcome with open arms

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Danes Construction Corp. invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

(1) **Civil engineering Technician**
(1) **Computer User Support Specialist**
(1) **Marketing Specialist**

Interested applicants may submit resume to:
danes@guam.net
Danes Construction Corp. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

JAR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Interior Designer
- with 4 to 5 years experience

If interested, send resume to:
PMB 2025 Box 10001
Tel: 285-5354 or 285-4297

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Cad Operator

Required Bachelor's Degree and 5 years of experience. Proficiency in AutoCAD 2015, Google Sketchup 2016 and Microsoft Office.

Respond to N15 Architects by Email to admin@n15architects.com

United Brothers Inc.
Is looking for the following:

- Maintenance Repairer (1)
- Machinist (2)
- Mechanic (2)
- Auto Body Repairer (2)
- Auto Body Painter (2)

Minimum of 5 years experience.
Call 670-323-1328 for inquiries.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-OGM-019

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 22, 2016 **TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF FORTY (40) BRUSH CUTTERS, FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WIAVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ **EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.**
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OPF GRANTS

/S/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP17-BECQ/DCRM-014

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 21, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"2016-2017 CNMI CLIMATE CHANGE CURRICULUM A PROJECT UNDER THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER **OCTOBE 19, 2016** FROM THE BECQ OFFICE OF BY EMAIL REQUEST TO **arielebaker@becq.gov.mp.** **QUESTIONS** REGARDING THIS RFP CAN BE E-MAILED TO arielebaker@becq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **NOVEMBER 07, 2016.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ **FRANK M. RABAULIMAN**
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/S/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

CORAL OCEAN GOLF RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) CHEF DE PARTIE
Salary : $8.35 to $9.50
Associate Degree in Culinary Arts or equivalent. Five to ten years work related experienced in pastry. Excellent interpersonal skills with a positive attitude, professional, neat and well groomed at all times. Must have passion in baking, creativity and dedicated team player with the ability to work in a multicultural environment and under difficult condition. Be able to stand for prolonged period of time. Willing to work in flexible shifts, days, evenings, weekend and holidays. Full understanding of licensing responsibilities and environmental health standards. Highly qualified in preparing variety of pastries and knowledgeable in food production and processing. Food Handler Certified.

Suwaso Corporation would like to invite all qualified US workers to send/submit their resume/application form to Recruit.COGR@eland.co.kr. Please provide at least two recommendation letter and proof of certification for the position, if needed. Application form is available in the hotel lobby and HR office. Incomplete application form may not be considered for assessment. Please fill up the form completely prior submission. No phone call please.

LSG Sky Chefs

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking to hire qualified U.S. workers for the following position:

- **Cook/Cook Helper**
- **Butcher**
- **Baker**
- **Warehouse Receiving Clerk**
- **Flight Delivery Driver**
- **Administrative Assistant**

Applications are available at the Main Office located on airport road, situated between American Red Cross Office and Historic Preservation Office, or send resume to rita.taitano@lsgskychefs.com
Deadline for submission is Friday, October 28, 2016.

SM Enterprises
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Offers the following services:

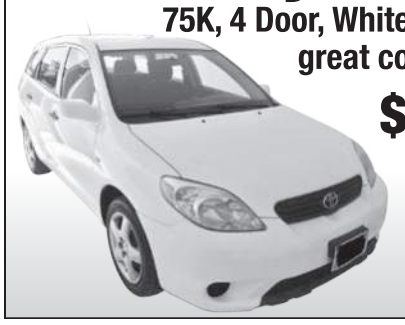
- **Boom Truck & Moving Services**
- **Masonry**
- **Carpentry**
- **Painting**
- **Plumbing**
- **Tree Removal/Land Clearing**
- **New House Construction**

Call: 670.989-2600 or 670.588-2600

FOR SALE

2005 Toyota Matrix

75K, 4 Door, White w/grey interior, great condition, cold ac,



$6,800 OBO

Call 989-2468

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-NMHC-017 (CIF-ROTA)

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 21, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "F" VEHICLE (4 X 4 – CREW CAB PICK-UP TRUCK) FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION – ROTA BRANCH)

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISION OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERET OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
CORPORATE DIRECTOR, NMHC

/S/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

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Requires: High School Diploma or a GED with prior work experience in luxury retail sales and must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and carry it for at least 100 yards with or without using a trolley. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese (Mandarin) languages. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Familiarity with the POS System is preferred.

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Denver gives Osweiler rude welcome in win over Houston

DENVER (AP)—The Denver Broncos ruined Brock Osweiler's homecoming Monday night, incessantly hurrying, hitting and harassing their former teammate in a 27-9 win over his Houston Texans.

Coach Gary Kubiak returned to the sideline following his second health scare in three years, and he liked what he saw as the Broncos (5-2) snapped a two-game skid in sending the overwhelmed Texans home at 4-3.

C.J. Anderson and Devontae Booker energized Denver's sputtering ground game, both running for a touchdown. Anderson gained 107 yards on 16 carries and Booker had 83 on 17 hand-offs.

But the big story was Trevor Siemian, Peyton Manning's surprise successor, outplaying Osweiler, who was groomed to be Denver's next QB but instead bolted to Houston in free agency, famously declaring the Texans gave him the better chance to be successful.

Not on this night.

Osweiler left for bigger numbers in Texas - both in his bank account and his stat sheet—but he spent the whole game quickly getting rid of the ball, constantly overthrowing DeAndre Hopkins in double coverage and otherwise running for his life from Von Miller & Co.

Osweiler was just 22 for 41 for 131 yards with no TDs and no interceptions. Siemian was 14 of 25 for 157 yards, a TD and no interceptions.

Osweiler also lost a fumble at his own 25-yard line. It was scooped up by Chris Harris Jr. on the first play of the fourth quarter and led to Brandon McManus' chip-shot field goal that made it 24-9, all but snuffing out Houston's hopes of a comeback.

AP
Denver Broncos free safety Darian Stewart (26) forces Houston Texans running back Alfred Blue (28) to fumble during the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 24, 2016, in Denver.

"He's a great kid. I talked to him after the game," Kubiak said. "I was concerned there late in the game because of what he did last week even though we had a two-score lead."

Last week, Osweiler led Houston back from a late 14-point deficit for an overtime win against the Colts, but there was no comeback against this defense.

When it was over, Osweiler hugged Emmanuel Sanders and then Siemian at midfield.

"He's into the game on every snap," Texans coach Bill O'Brien said. "He's got good poise, tough environment. We all have to do better. Everyone has got to do better."

Of the dozen passes thrown his way, Hopkins caught just five of them, covering 36 yards, and no other Texan gained more.

Anderson scored on a 7-yard run and Siemian hit Demaryius Thomas from 4 yards out as the Broncos took a 14-6 halftime lead.

Osweiler took a couple of big shots from safeties Darian Stewart and T.J. Ward in the first quarter, but the Texans led 6-0 on a pair of 43-yard field goals by Nick Novak.

Novak's 29-yarder made it 14-9, but Stewart punched the ball from running back Alfred Blue's grasp and linebacker Todd Davis plucked it out of the air . That led to Booker's 1-yard TD run .

Kubiak missed Denver's last game when doctors ordered him to take a week off after he was transported via ambulance to the hospital following Denver's last home game, on Oct. 9, with a complex migraine condition, which can mimic a stroke. Kubiak had a mini-stroke in 2013 while coaching the Texans.

Like Osweiler, this was his first game against his former team, and cornerback Aqib Talib flipped the script and awarded Kubiak a game ball afterward.

"Coaches get game balls when players play good, I can tell you that," Kubiak said. "I'm proud of them because I asked them to do some things for me, kind of regroup ourselves a little bit and they did, they responded."

STREAK BREAKER: Denver's dazzling defense is a real dawdler, having allowed scores on five of six opening drives coming into the game. That didn't stop them from deferring when they won the toss. The Texans went three and out on their first two possessions, the first time all season the Broncos hadn't allowed points on their first two defensive series.

OH NO, OKUNG: Broncos left tackle Russell Okung cleared concussion protocol to make the start. But he was rusty a week after his pair of penalties resulted in a nullified touchdown and a safety in a 21-13 loss at San Diego. This time, he was whistled for a pair of holds that negated a nifty first-down run by Booker and a 28-yard grab by Thomas.

INJURIES: Texans right tackle Derek Newton was carted off the field with what looked like serious injuries to both knees in the first half. He crumpled to the grass while blocking Miller. Newton was dropping back to pass block midway through the first quarter when his left knee buckled first and then his right knee gave way. For Denver, linebackers Brandon Marshall (leg) and Dekoda Watson (head) left in the second half.

QB Jay Cutler receives medical clearance to play for Bears

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP)—Finally, some good news for the scuffling Chicago Bears: Quarterback Jay Cutler will return from a thumb injury to play against the Minnesota Vikings on Oct. 31.

Whether it's too late for Cutler to salvage something for the Bears (1-6)—or perhaps his own career in Chicago—remain valid questions.

"I think he's been at the bit for a while," coach John Fox said Monday. "I think anytime you can't play as a competitor, as a player, obviously that's hard and I think he handled it great."

Fox said team doctors cleared Cutler to play over the weekend. His return comes at an opportune time since backup Brian Hoyer broke his left arm against Green Bay on Thursday night and had surgery. He was placed on injured reserve, and the Bears have not ruled out picking up another quarterback.

Matt Barkley replaced Hoyer in the loss at Green Bay.

Cutler completed 28 of 46 for 373 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions in a game and a half before his thumb sprain against Philadelphia in a 29-14 loss Sept. 19. He had a passer rating of 75.7

Hoyer completed 134 of 200 for 1,445 yards with six touchdowns and a passer rating of 98.0. His 200 attempts without an interception are only five shy of the franchise record set in 2008 by Kyle Orton. While Hoyer was playing, Fox was asked if Cutler would return as starter when he healed and said the starting position would be performance-based.

Fox sought to clarify his statement Monday.

"Some things that I say go somewhere that I wasn't really intending," he said. "At the end of the day, obviously, Jay's our starter. He was injured, not permitted to play medically. And now that he's healed, he's back to being our starter.

"That's really the facts and kind of what happened and where we're at now. So I don't know that there was a competition to speak of. Just like there wasn't a competition when Matt Barkley went in, he was our only quarterback left. So it's good to have Jay back. We're excited to have him back and hopefully he can remain healthy."

It's been speculated often that Cutler and Chicago may part ways after this season. Fox doesn't think the talk will affect Cutler.

"I think all that for everybody is tough," Fox said. "I think everybody realizes what they signed up for. Obviously as a coach and a staff you're always trying to help your players through stuff like that, but one thing I've found in Jay in the time I've been here is that he's very tough-minded and resilient."

Fox said Cutler worked with offensive coordinator Dowell Loggains and Hoyer throughout his injury.

Now it's a matter of getting back in sync with teammates on the field.

Center Cody Whitehair said there could be a slight adjustment made in terms of Cutler taking snaps instead of Hoyer, but not much else.

"We don't really play into that much; whichever's back there, we're going to try and do our best to protect them and do our thing on the run," Whitehair said. "But you know, it is nice to have him back. He's been a leader on the sideline even while he wasn't playing and it'll be nice to have him back out there."

4-time Pro Bowl RB Arian Foster announces his retirement

MIAMI (AP)—Four-time Pro Bowler Arian Foster says he can no longer take the punishment an NFL running back endures, so he is retiring midway through an injury-plagued season with the Miami Dolphins.

Foster, 30, tried to come back from a torn Achilles tendon, but was slowed this season by groin and hamstring injuries. He announced his retirement Monday on the website Uninterrupted as the Dolphins began their bye week.

The team confirmed the decision, effective immediately.

"There comes a time in every athlete's career when their ambition and their body are no longer on the same page," Foster wrote. "I've reached that point. It's hard to write those words because this game has been everything to me ... my therapy, my joy, my solace and my enemy."

Foster signed a $1.5 million, one-year contract with the Dolphins in July after spending his first seven NFL seasons with the Houston Texans. He holds the Texans' franchise record with 6,472 yards rushing.

This season he rushed for 55 yards on 22 carries, and he had 5 yards on three carries Sunday against the Buffalo Bills.

"My father always said, 'You'll know when it's time to walk away,'" he wrote. "It has never been more clear than right now. I'm walking away with peace. I know it's not commonplace to do it midseason, but my body just can't take the punishment this game asks for any longer."

Foster was one of several Miami players this season to kneel during the pregame national anthem to protest social inequality. His playing time was curtailed with the emergence of Jay Ajayi, who tied an NFL record by surpassing 200 yards rushing in consecutive games.

Since 2010, Foster ranked second in the NFL with 115.2 yards from scrimmage per game, trailing only Le'Veon Bell's 121.9.

"No words to describe the appreciation and love I got for Arian Foster," former Texans offensive lineman Chris Myers tweeted. "Playing center for a player like him makes a career seem like a dream!"

Next year here: Lovable losers Cubs, Indians meet in Series

CLEVELAND (AP)—The last time the Cleveland Indians won the World Series, Dewey led Truman in the polls. The Chicago Cubs' last title was 13 days after the first Ford Model T car was completed.

Lovable losers known for decades of defeat meet in this year's championship, a combined 174 seasons of futility facing off starting Tuesday night at Progressive Field.

Cleveland's last title was in 1948, when 16 teams from the East Coast to St. Louis competed in a just-integrated sport. The Cubs are trying to win for the first time since 1908 , a dead ball-era matchup at a time home runs were rarities along with telephones.

No player is alive from the last championship Cubs or even the last to make a Series appearance—Tuesday marks the 25,948th day since the Cubs' Game 7 loss to Detroit in 1945. One player remains from the 1948 Indians, 95-year-old Eddie Robinson.

"It seems like it's just forever," Robinson said Monday from his home in Fort Worth, Texas. "When we got home from Boston, there was a monumental parade. It just looked like everybody in Cleveland came out on Euclid Avenue."

One team's fans will let loose with the celebration of a lifetime. But while history weighs on the supporters, Cubs manager Joe Maddon focuses his players with a now-centered battle cry of "Win the Inning!"

"Air conditioning is popular right now. So is color TV," he said. "You've just got to change with the times."

Both teams worked out under cloudy skies as the new 59-by-221-foot scoreboard behind the left-field seats - the largest in the major leagues - trumpeted the Sisyphean matchup. While the Cubs play in Wrigley Field, the 102-year-old brick-and-ivy jewel on Chicago's North Side, the Indians are in a 22-year-old throwback-style ballpark originally called Jacobs Field.

Led by Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo, the Cubs led the major leagues with 103 wins during the regular season, then beat San Francisco and Los Angeles in the playoffs. But since the playoffs expanded in 1995, only four teams with the best regular-season record won the title: the 1998 and 2009 New York Yankees, and the 2007 and 2013 Boston Red Sox.

"I promise you, our guys are going to be in the present tense," Maddon said. "I think we all have a tremendous amount of respect for history and what's happened before us or not happened before us. But, you know, you go in that room right now, they're very young. Really not impacted by a lot of the lore."

Jon Lester, 7-1 in his career against Cleveland, starts for the Cubs and Corey Kluber opens for the Indians. Lester is 2-0 with a 0.86 ERA in three postseason starts this year and 3-0 with a 0.43 ERA in a trio of Series outings. He learned to prepare from watching Curt Schilling and Josh Beckett in Boston.

"They prepared the same way for this start as they would for a regular start during the season," he said.

Kluber pitched shutout ball twice in the playoffs before allowing two runs in five innings in Game 4 at Toronto. His father, Jim, was born in Cleveland and rooted for the Indians growing up in suburban Highland Heights.

"I think every parent is excited if their kid has a chance to play in the World Series," said the 30-year-old right-hander, who could win his second AL Cy Young Award in three years.

Both teams were dealing with injuries that caused changes in planning. Indians manager Terry Francona, juggling all year because of health mishaps, said right-hander Danny Salazar will be on the World Series roster, which must be submitted Tuesday morning. Salazar has not pitched since Sept. 9 because of forearm tightness but threw a simulated game Sunday.

"Nothing's official, so if we have another drone incident or anything with model airplanes or anything, we reserve the right" to change, he said, a reference to the injury that limited pitcher Trevor Bauer to two-thirds of an inning in the AL Championship Series.

Chicago appeared likely to include outfielder Kyle Schwarber, out since tearing knee ligaments on April 8. A person with direct knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on Monday that Schwarber was traveling to Cleveland, but the person did not know yet if the slugger would be on the roster.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the roster won't be announced until Tuesday.

Schwarber returned to action last weekend in the Arizona Fall League.

"Reports are good," Maddon said. "He's swinging the bat well. He's running really well."

Indians second baseman Jason Kipnis was dealing with a sprained left ankle, hurt when he jumped and shortstop Francisco Lindor accidentally stepped on his foot while celebrating the last out of the ALCS.

"He might not be 100 percent, but I don't think it's going to get in the way," Francona said.

Cleveland fell three outs short of the 1997 title when Jose Mesa blew a one-run lead in the ninth inning of Game 7 at Florida and an error by second baseman Tony Fernandez led to the Marlins' winning run in the 11th.

The Series starts just after a ceremony across the street when LeBron James and the Cavaliers receive championship rings before their opener celebrating this year's NBA title, the first for Cleveland's big league teams since the NFL's Browns in 1964.

"It's a pretty neat set of circumstances," said Indians reliever Andrew Miller, the ALCS MVP. "Obviously the fans wish they had won quite a bit previously, but I think the Cubs are even going to overshadow us in that history."

AP

In this 1945 photo, workmen hang out festive bunting at Wrigley Field, the home of the Chicago Cubs, to greet crowds for the World Series baseball games between the Chicago White Sox and the Cubs in Chicago.

Lester, Cubs ready in case Cleveland tries to run wild

CLEVELAND (AP)—Jon Lester is a study in contrasts. When the baseball leaves his left hand on its way to the plate, the Chicago Cubs ace is dominant, particularly in October.

When it leaves his hand on the way to first base, however, all bets are off.

A mental block. The yips. Whatever it is that's making Lester turn a routine pickoff throw into something far more problematic, he can't shake it.

And on Tuesday night the man who first noticed the troubling signs and tried to shield it from view will try to exploit it when Lester starts Game 1 of the World Series against manager Terry Francona and the Cleveland Indians.

The skipper could tell something was amiss while working with Lester near the end of Francona's tenure with the Boston Red Sox. They attempted to deal with it quietly.

"We did a lot of things to make sure that it didn't get out in the open," Francona said. "I thought we actually did a really good job because it wasn't until I left there that people started to realize that."

What used to be a well-protected secret is now on display for all of baseball to see.

Lester once went 66 straight starts—two full calendar years—without even attempting a pickoff toss. The nadir came in 2015, when any baserunner became a threat to go regardless of pedigree.

And why not? Opponents stole 44 bases in 55 attempts against Lester last year, easily the most against any pitcher in the majors.

Lester grew tired of trying to explain something the inexplicable, particularly for a pitcher whose typically solid control only seems to improve in lockstep with the stakes—he's 3-0 in three World Series starts with a sparkling 0.43 ERA.

So Cubs manager Joe Maddon decided to take some of the onus on Lester this spring and instead make controlling the running game a collective effort.

"Everybody's got an assignment per pitch, what we want to do," Maddon said. "What Jon does as good as anybody in major league baseball is throw the ball from the mound to the plate, that's it. I wanted Jon to focus on what he does well first."

Lester worked on his slide step and mixed up his tempo. Catcher David Ross improved his throwing, no small task at 39. The results this season were manageable. Only 28 of 41 base stealers advanced 90 feet safely, and three of those came in Lester's meaningless final start.

"We don't want guys to take the extra base," Ross said. "I don't want them to get on period."

And that's the part of his job where Lester thrives. He's 2-0 with a 0.86 ERA in three playoff starts this month (8-6 with a 2.50 ERA in his career) and hardly seems unnerved no matter what tactics opponents use in an attempt to rattle him.

In Game 5 of the NLCS, the Dodgers' Enrique Hernandez worked a walk leading off the first inning then faked a dash to second only to pull back at the last second. Down a pair of runs in the seventh inning, Joc Pederson nearly went full Usain Bolt, turning to face second base while lining up like a sprinter.

Neither player went, ultimately. And each time Lester made it out of the frame unscathed. He also fielded his position cleanly when the Dodgers would try to lay down a bunt instead of swinging away. The way Cubs first baseman Anthony Rizzo figures it, maybe Lester's as much in the head of the opposition as they are in his.

"The Dodgers were trying to bunt and it didn't work out," Rizzo said. "When you throw someone off their game plan and stick to your game plan, you have the upper hand."

Expect the Indians to ramp up the pressure when given the opportunity. Cleveland's 143 stolen bases led the American League, with Rajai Davis taking an AL-best 43 on his own. Davis studied plenty of tape on Lester ahead of Game 1. Asked if his eyes light up when facing a pitcher who can't throw over, and Davis smiled.

In the NBA, foreign players try to understand social issues

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Andrew Bogut grew up in a richly diverse area of Melbourne, Australia, and has estimated that he went to school with people from nearly 100 different nationalities.

He has fondly referred to his home as a tolerant and inclusive community, one largely devoid of racial tension that many of his NBA teammates faced growing up in the United States. But Bogut and other international players have been on the periphery, if not part of, discussions in locker rooms as their teammates address social issues like police brutality and racial profiling, concerns that prompted Colin Kaepernick to begin kneeling during the nation anthem in September.

When Bogut reported to training camp with the Dallas Mavericks and the subject of anthem protests started to surface, he said he couldn't really identify with the plight of some of his African-American teammates who were considering joining the San Francisco 49ers quarterback and others in the demonstrations.

"I think it's a country that prides itself on free speech," Bogut said of the U.S. "And if ... they want to do that it's more than their right. On a personal level, I know there's a lot of history here that goes centuries back that I don't really relate to too much growing up in Australia."

Miami Heat guard Goran Dragic, who is from Slovenia, doesn't fully grasp it either.

"It's kind of hard for me to understand, since I'm coming from a different country," Dragic said. "But if those things were happening in my country, of course I would have something to say - while being true to the country, because that's where I grew up and they gave me everything."

Officials in teams' front offices and at league headquarters have had ongoing discussions with the players union about what do. Both sides appear to be more focused on developing programs to address social injustices rather than demonstrations like Kaepernick's public displays during the anthem.

But that doesn't mean there won't be protests as the league tips off its latest season on Tuesday night. The NBA has long embraced a reputation for being the most socially conscious league in the United States, but there is a rule in the collective bargaining agreement that requires players to stand respectfully for the anthem.

Many of the roughly 22 percent of the league's players who come from outside the U.S. are white Europeans or Australians and do not have the same perspectives that their African-American teammates had growing up here even though racial inequality is a problem that exists throughout the world.

Dragic had conversations with several of his black teammates before the Heat decided to lock arms during the anthem in the preseason in a show of unity. It is sensitive, complex ground to navigate and requires a deep understanding of the issues before teammates feel comfortable enough to put themselves out there.

"I understand that we're putting a message out there for society to be better," Dragic said. "But at the same time, we don't disrespect the flag or the national anthem and I think that's good. We don't want to be too aggressive but at the same time we want to let people know that something wrong is happening out there and we want to correct those things."

AP
This Oct. 21, 2016 file photo shows Dallas Mavericks center Andrew Bogut, front, working the ball inside for a shot as Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic defends during the second half of an NBA preseason basketball game in Denver.

LeBron James, Carmelo Anthony, Chris Paul and Dwyane Wade got things started with a call for action at the ESPY awards in July, and Anthony organized a town hall forum later that month. There have been many other efforts, including the Chicago Bulls hosting their second annual basketball tournament geared toward creating dialogue between the police and the community and new Memphis Grizzlies coach David Fizdale helping revive the city's Police Athletic League, which helps mentor law enforcement on how to become coaches in youth leagues.

"I've thought a lot about this, and (NBPA executive director) Michele Roberts and I have talked a lot about these issues, that there may be no organization in our society better positioned than the NBA and its players to try to have an impact on these difficult issues plaguing many of our cities," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said last week.

It isn't just foreign players and African-Americans in the NBA who are engaging.

"For me, I can't personally understand what some other players go through," said Minnesota Timberwolves center Cole Aldrich, who grew up in the predominantly white Minneapolis suburb of Bloomington. "I grew up differently than (Serbian Nemanja Bjelica) or (African-American) Karl-Anthony Towns or whoever. I personally love ... trying to broaden my (horizons) on that."

NAPU

From Page 28

3 completed the club's podium sweep after logging 9:33:14. The host's Belau Kanu Club Waterfall was ranked fourth with its 10:58.32.

In the one-lap 500m sprint, which also took place last Saturday, it was Napu Junior Mix 2's turn to claim the top spot in the finals after recording 2:39.32. All three Napu youth teams managed to finish the shortest race in the tournament under the three-minute mark with Napu Junior Mix 1 and Napu Junior Mix 3 posting 2:45.81 and 2:53.16, respectively. Belau Kanu Club Waterfall again missed the Top 3 after making it to the finish line way behind Napu's paddlers after checking in at 3:18.21.

Napu's three youth squads also swept the 10-kilometer long course held last Sunday, but official times were unavailable at press time.

The winning club is scheduled to return to Saipan this morning after its notable showing in the three-day tournament.

Napu's youth paddlers and its officials conducted a lot of fundraising events—from coin drive to collecting trash—to fund their trip to Palau. They also courted the private and public sectors to ask for support for their participation in the Micro Cup. While finding funds for their Palau trip, the club's paddlers also went through grueling training sessions starting early this year, spending several hours in the waters off Kilili Beach and Managaha four times a week.

TANHOLDINGS

From Page 28

the 34th minute, while Batino, Austria, and Pascual hit the board in the 37th, 40th, and 68th minute, respectively. Jhoey Noble tallied the lone goal for Kanoa in the 34th minute.

TanHoldings has four games left in the double-round robin fall season and must win at least two to take the division championship.

Matansa 7, Shirley's 1

Matansa earned its second victory this season after dominating the winless Shirley's FC.

Matansa (2-0-4) drew four goals from Lolobeyong Benito for the easy triumph. Joshua Malig and Justin Charles Achas registered the two other goals for Matansa. Shirley's (0-0-6), on the other hand, got its only goal from Tyneth Santos.

Meanwhile, MP United was awarded a win via forfeiture against Paire in the final game in the division last weekend.

Actually, Paire had the lead after the one-hour match, 4-1, but was not handed the victory as its players failed to show their NMIFA IDs before the match. Tournament rules call for all players to present their IDs before each game.

The two goals apiece of Paire's Kaden Church and Jamin Elliot were nullified. Rintaro Miyawaki scored for MP United. Paire and MP United hold similar 3-0-3 records.

CO-ED U12
Kanoa 5, TanHoldings 3

Kanoa edged TanHoldings in their game at the Hopwood Junior High School Field to retain its shaky lead in the division.

Kanoa owns a 5-0-1 record, just a win ahead of MP United-1 (4-0-1). TanHoldings has a 1-1-4 mark.

TanHoldings was still in the game after the first half as Kohtaro Goto canned in the equalizer in the 25th minute. Earlier in the 13th minute, Daniel Pablo put Kanoa on the board. Kanoa then managed to take full control of the match in the second half behind the hat trick of Brian Lubao and a goal from John Mark Anastacio. Goto had three goals, too but his two shots in the second half were not enough to lead TanHoldings to an upset against the division leader.

MP United-2 8, Paire 6

MP United-2 broke into the win column after its first four failed attempts as it stunned the third-ranked Paire in the other game in the division.

Seal Gil towed MP United-2 to its first victory of the season after firing seven goals in succession. He started his string of goals in the seventh minute, while his last six came in the 20th, 25th, 38th, 39th, 49th, and 58th. MP United-2's other goal was courtesy of Leo Takahashi's shot in the second minute.

Dylan Mister had five goals on a losing effort for Paire, while Maui Johnson chipped in one.

COME

From Page 28

best Mini Games in the region.

Lakhan and Minoque were scheduled to meet with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres or his representatives yesterday afternoon to explain further what is expected from the CNMI as a host and ask again for the Commonwealth's commitment to the Mini Games. The two officials along with NMSA president Michael White vice president Kurt Barnes were also set to sit down with local sports federations' leaders last night.

"The local sports federations must understand that they are not only competing in the Mini Games, but also running their respective tournaments. They have to understand that they will play a very important role in making sure the competition will be conducted well," Minogue said.

The CNMI is offering 12 sports for the Mini Games. The list includes athletics, badminton, golf, tennis, va'a (canoe), volleyball (indoor and beach), baseball, sailing, swimming, triathlon, weightlifting, and wrestling

"As for the people of the CNMI, they are the strength of the host country as they are always very welcoming to visiting athletes and officials and their families," the PGC executive director added.

Meanwhile, Jerry Tan, the chair of the Mini Games' oversight committee, assured the visiting officials that the CNMI has a solid group of people working for the hosting of the Games.

"We have representatives from both the government and business sectors working together with NMSA and our sports officials to move forward with the preparations for the Games and get the job done.

Tan added that the oversight and organizing committees plan to send people to Vanuatu next year for the 2017 Mini Games to observe how the event is run.

"We will make sure we will send the right people to learn how to do it (Mini Games hosting) and execute these steps when it is time for us to hold the Mini Games here in 2021," Tan said.

2016 NMA All Schools Cross Country Series 3

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Runners take their time as they have a lap left in the two-mile high school race in the third leg of the Northern Marianas Athletics' 2016 All Schools Cross Country Series held last Saturday at the CPA Airport Field.

Two runners head to the finish line.

Mt. Carmel School's Christian Villacrusis is a few meters away from completing the three-lap race.

A high school runner keeps a steady pace to try to catch up with the leaders.

Race director Elias Rangamar, second left, raises the white flag to direct runners to the finish line.

A runner, right, gets his finisher stick from race volunteer and Agape Christian School's Dick Guintu.

Agape Christian School students run together on their way to the final lap of the race.

Three Agape Christian School head back to the course for the third and final lap of the three-mile race.

Denver gives Osweiler rude welcome in win over Houston

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Next year here: Lovable losers Cubs, Indians meet in Series

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'Come together for 2021 Mini Games'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan and executive director Andrew Minogue are urging the CNMI to work together for the historic hosting of the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

"Come together for the 2021 Mini Games. Join hands in bringing this wonderful event to the CNMI," said Lakhan, who arrived on Saipan last Monday to get updates on the Commonwealth's preparations for the quadrennial competition. The PGC head made special mention of the key roles that the CNMI government will play in holding the Mini Games on Saipan for the first time.

"The government should understand the cost of having the Games here and provide financial support to the local organizing committee (NMSA). The Pacific Games Council will then work with Northern Marianas Sports Association to monitor the progress of the CNMI's preparation for the Games," added Lakhan.

NMSA, during its presentation to the PGC's general assembly in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea in 2014, with the approval of the late governor Eloy S. Inos, has estimated the cost of the Mini Games at $1,160,000. Of the over $1-million budget for the event, $650,000 will come from participation fees from the 22 nations, $250,000 from the government, and the remaining $260,000 from the private sector through sponsorships.

Lakhan said that with the government's help and the support of the local sports officials, business community, and the CNMI residents, the PGC is positive that the host country can deliver one of the

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
From left, NMSA president Michael White, NMSA vice president Kurt Barnes, Pacific Games Council executive director Andrew Minogue, Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan, and 2021 Pacific Mini Games' oversight committee chair Jerry Tan pose for a photo after a media briefing on the quadrennial event yesterday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

TanHoldings, Kanoa keep division leads

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Paire Football Club's George Shokarev, left, is defended by MP United's Skyler Poon during the second half of their boys U14 division game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Kobleville Elementary School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

TanHoldings Football Club and Kanoa FC boosted their title bids after keeping the top spots in their respective divisions in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League.

TanHoldings is still ahead in the boys U14 age group after a 6-1 victory over the second-running Kanoa last Saturday at the Kobleville Elementary School Field. The division leader moved two wins ahead of Kanoa as TanHoldings now has a 6-0-0 win-draw-loss record. Kanoa fell to a 4-0-2 mark

Mark Esalan paced TanHoldings' sixth win as he nailed two goals, while John Paul Cruz, Kirro Batino, Thaiphi Austria, and Reginald Pascual contributed one goal apiece. Esalan knocked in his first goal in the 22nd minute and his second and last in the 53rd.

Cruz was the other TanHoldings player to score in the first half with his shot in

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Napu youth paddlers deliver

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

All those exhausting training sessions and endless fundraising efforts paid off for Napu Outrigger Canoe Club as the group is bringing home not only one, but nine awards

Napu's youth paddlers recorded Top 3 finishes in the junior mix 500m, 1,500m, and long-distance course of the Micro Cup 2016 held over the weekend in the waters off Meyuns Seaplane Ramp in Koror, Palau. The club's youth team is composed of Ryan Aguon, Brandon Cabrera, Kyle Reyes, Sammy Litulumar, Leon Laniyo, Hekido Helgen, Daven Hocog, Raven Igisaiar, Daydra Hocog, Isabel Ito, Julianna Hanson, Rika Diaz, Jewel Cubangbang, Dhalian Salas, Camille Muna, Rachel Tudela, Leisha Guerrero Mendiola, and Mayiah Duenas. Jason Tarkong called the shots for the Napu youth paddlers.

In the 1,500m finals last Saturday, Napu Junior Mix 1 made it to the finish line way ahead of its competitors after clocking in at 8:59.44. The champion team was the lone squad to break the nine-minute barrier in the three-lap race as Napu Junior Mix 2 checked in at 9:16.96. Napu Junior Mix

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Napu Outrigger Canoe Club's youth paddlers and officials pose for a photo after completing their races in the Micro Cup 2016 held over the weekend in Koror, Palau.